# MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

31 MARCH 1981

## Iran-Iraq Conflict

Good Offices Committee--Tehran radio reported that the Islamic Conference good offices committee arrived in Tehran on 30 March and met with members of Iran's Supreme Defense Council. Later Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr said in an interview broadcast by the radio that the committee proposed "new things" and that there will be another round of talks between the two sides. The committee "accepted the principle of investigating who is the aggressor," he said, but added that it "remains to be seen" whether Iraq will also accept this. Bani-Sadr noted that Iran has "never stipulated" that the committee should declare Iraq to be the aggressor before it begins its investigation. The war can be ended if the "framework" for the settlement of the dispute is "just," he said, but it will continue if Iraq does not accept such a framework. Interviewed along with Bani-Sadr, Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i said it "seemed" that President Bani-Sadr "believed" that the good offices committee has agreed to investigate the aggression.

Majlis Speaker Mohammad Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who apparently did not attend the meeting with the good offices committee but met separately with PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, said at a press conference, reported by AFP, that the Islamic committee's new proposals are "clearer and more positive" but still do not meet Iran's three conditions. In an interview broadcast by the radio, Rafsanjani said Iran's conditions are "reasonable," but he admitted that Iraq "will not easily accept" them. The Iraqi president is in a "deadlocked situation," Rafsanjani claimed, because he will be overthrown either if he accepts the Iranian conditions or if the war continues.

Military Situation--An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by INA, said Iraqi forces pounded Iranian troop concentrations in the Gilan-e Gharb region, killing 22. Tehran radio confirmed that "fierce" clashes took place in the Gilan-e Gharb area. It said in another report that exchanges of fire continued on southern and western fronts, claiming that 31 Iraqis were killed in the Abadan region. The radio also said that Iranian forces blew up the Umm ar-Rasas bridge in Iraq.

## Iran

Bani-Sadr Message--In a message to the nation commemorating the anniversary of the establishment of the Islamic Republic, the text of which was broadcast by Tehran radio, President Bani-Sadr stressed the need for unity among "all individuals and forces" in Iran. He listed five conditions that must be met in order to provide the basis for the implementation of the cultural, political and economic reforms that Iran desires: 1) the protection of territorial integrity and the achievement of "complete independence"; 2) the complete sovereignty of the Constitution, which means that the government of "force and oppression" must be replaced by a government of law; 3) the establishment of the foundations of unity, based on the protection of freedoms, the election of "councils" by the people and mobilization against forces that want to impose "dependence" on Iran; 4) the allocation of offices to able and expert individuals; 5) the reopening of universities and other educational institutions.

Clashes in Ramsar--Citing JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, AFP reported that on 28 March "American leftist groups" attacked revolution guards in Ramsar, on the Caspian Sea, and one person was killed in the fighting. Three days earlier, the paper added, "leftists" had attacked villagers in the same region, killing one.

## Lebanon

According to Jerusalem radio, an IDF unit carried out an operation against "terrorist" targets north of Tyre during the night of 30-31 March, wounding some terrorists and returning home safely. The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio claimed that the Israelis attempted a landing from gunboats but were repulsed during a 1-hour exchange of fire with Palestinian joint forces. Beirut radio, on the other hand, reported that the Israeli unit landed and engaged Palestinian forces, later withdrawing under cover of artillery fire.

## PLO

The PLO has responded critically to the 9 March ABC TV interview by national security adviser Richard Allen. An official PLO statement, broadcast by the Voice of Palestine radio, said that Allen's attacks on the PLO and support for Israeli "aggression" against southern Lebanon indicate that the current U.S. administration is "overtly threatening" the security and peace of the Middle East and the world. The PLO will meet the "fabricated U.S. accusations" with greater determination to achieve its goals, the statement went on, but will nevertheless adhere to its "responsible and reasonable stand" and continue its policy of "preserving peace and security" in the Middle East.

## Syria

The Syrian Army has clashed with Muslim Brotherhood members in Aleppo several times over the past few days, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. During one clash in which artillery and heavy machineguns were used, the army brought in helicopters and took control of a Muslim Brotherhood training center, capturing some 30 brotherhood members.

## Saudi Arabia

In an interview with KUNA, Petroleum Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani indicated that Saudi Arabia will not reduce its oil production until the oil-exporting countries agree on unified prices. Before the OPEC countries talk about production, he said, they must talk about unifying prices, which should "take precedence" over other issues.

## Afghanistan

The Indonesian news agency OANA has said that despite earlier reports that Gen Baba Jan, Afghan chief of the General Staff, and Gaffar Lakanwal, deputy minister of agriculture, were stripped of their posts early in March, the two appeared on live Kabul television broadcasts on 23 and 29 March attending official functions marking the Afghan new year.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PLO SPOKESMAN, VOP VIEW RICHARD ALLEN'S REMARKS

NC300815 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Statement by PLO official spokesman; date not given--read by announcer]

[Text] In a television interview held on 9 March and broadcast by the ABC TV network yesterday, U.S. Presidential Adviser for National Security Affairs Richard Allen attacked the PLO, which he accused of being a terrorist organization. He also attacked PLO Chairman Brother Yasir 'Arafat and justified the Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon.

In view of these aggressive U.S. remarks, the PLO announces that the new U.S. administration, like previous U.S. administrations, is not only practicing a policy of aggression against the national interests of struggling nations and peoples, but is also practicing a policy of overtly threatening world security and peace, especially in the Middle East.

Through its support for the daily Israeli attacks against southern Lebanon, the new U.S. administration has thus revealed its aggressive policy, the dedicated aim of which is to fan the fire of aggressive wars in the area and in other parts of the world.

In view of these programmed and fabricated U.S. accusations, the PLO announces that these accusations do not help the achievement of any stability in the area but contribute directly to fueling the fire of wars and undermining peace and stability. This U.S. accent will be met on the part of the Palestinian people and the Arab national forces with more determination to liquidate the Zionist occupation and restore our usurped rights.

The responsible and reasonable stand characterizing the PLO policy is not a language which the new U.S. administration understands. Therefore, the PLO, despite all of this, affirms to the world's peoples that it will continue with its policy aimed at preserving peace and security in the area. The PLO will not deviate from this policy regardless of provocations and will not relinquish our people's national rights to repatriation, self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on our national soil.

VOP Commentary

NC290931 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] The United States has said that the Zionist attacks against the Palestinian camps and the Lebanese townships and villages in the south are justified actions. This statement, which did not surprise anyone, was made by Richard Allen, the White House national security adviser. Allen claimed that the Zionist enemy raids against southern Lebanon are a legitimate hot pursuit. Allen reiterated statements by the terrorist Menahem Begin that the PLO, which the entire world has recognized, is a terrorist organization.

Allen, who is known for his Zionist inclinations, spoke about the brother commander, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], saying that Yasir 'Arafat is not a moderate man as the Carter administration had described him.

Allen said that the PLO is receiving important support from the Soviet Union, which shares the PLO's objectives of destroying Israel.

Allen was speaking in a television interview which will also be broadcast next Thursday--the date when U.S. Secretary of State Haig's tour of a number of the area's states will begin.

Richard Allen's statements confirm the U.S. policy of supporting the Zionist enemy and ignoring the rights of the Palestinian Arab people. Moreover, these statements clearly reveal the hostility which the Reagan administration harbors toward the Arabs in general and the Palestinian people in particular.

'ARAFAT RELATES YEMENI GULF COUNCIL 'RESERVATIONS'

LD271241 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 25 Mar 81 pp 1, 19

[Excerpt] Riyadh--PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met with Saudi officials yesterday and reviewed the general situation, the situation in southern Lebanon and the Islamic mediation efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Informed sources have pointed out to AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM that 'Arafat has briefed King Khalid and Prince Fahd on the matters he dealt with during his visit to Aden and San'a' before coming to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. 'Arafat emphasized in this respect that, if the Aden officials have reservations about the Gulf Cooperation Council, it is only because the Sultanate of Oman is a member of this council--the Sultanate of Oman which has granted military facilities to the Americans and continues to maintain its relations with Egypt while remaining hostile to South Yemen. 'Arafat emphasized that the summit conference of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front states to be held in Aden at the beginning of next month is neither an answer nor an objection to the Gulf Cooperation Council but an ordinary meeting of the front, and its aim is to contribute to resisting the American and European attempts to expand Western military influence to the area through the Rapid Deployment Forces and the facilities granted to them.

SYRIAN REQUEST FOR PLO BEIRUT WITHDRAWAL REFUSED

LD290900 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0727 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 29 Mar (KUNA)--Kuwait's AL-QABAS reports today that the PLO has rejected a Syrian request to withdraw Palestine Liberation Army [PLA] forces from lines of contact between the rightist eastern sector and the western leftist sector of Beirut. Quoting sources of the leftist national movement which is in alliance with the Palestinian resistance, the paper said that the PLO informed Syria that it will not withdraw the PLA forces from their positions until a "practical solution" was found in Lebanon and until the identity of the military units that will replace the PLA forces there was known.

According to the paper, the Syrians made this request following an agreement said to have been reached between President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria and Ilyas Sarkis of Lebanon during a summit meeting they had on 10 March. The paper says that the agreement "provided for withdrawal of the PLA forces from the dividing lines between the two sectors of Beirut and their replacement by Lebanese military units under the command of officers belonging to neither side in Lebanon." The paper gave no other details.

'ARAFAT MEETS WITH USSR, CUBAN, FRG CHARGES

JN281837 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1800 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] It was revealed today that the Soviet charge d'affaires in Beirut delivered to Brother Abu Ja'far a message from the Soviet leadership for Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] on the latest development in the area.

Brother Abu Ja'far, director of the PLO Political Department, received successively in Beirut today the FRG, Cuban and Soviet charges d'affaires. During the meetings viewpoints on several current Arab and international issues, especially the repeated Zionist attacks on southern Lebanon, were discussed. Discussion also dealt with bilateral relations between the PLO and the aforementioned countries and means to enhance and develop them.

USSR RENEWS SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIANS' STRUGGLE

JN272017 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Text] The USSR has renewed its support for the just struggle waged by the Palestinian people against Zionist aggression. This came during the seminar organized by the Soviet-Palestinian Friendship Society under the slogan, "The Middle East issue in light of the Soviet principles." Brother Muhammad ash-Sha'ir, PLO representative in the USSR, spoke at the seminar. He shed light on the imperialist, Zionist and reactionary scheme in the region to impose control over Arab oil. He also discussed the repeated plots against the Palestinian revolution. He expressed his support for Comrade Brezhnev's initiative on the Middle East issue.

VOP REPORTS CELEBRATION OF 30 MAR LAND DAY

Fatah Statement

NC300709 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] On the occasion of Land Day, the Fatah Central Committee today issued a statement affirming that the Land Day, which is being celebrated by our Palestinian people and the democratic and progressive Jewish forces, is a true and deep expression of the genuine character of the Palestinian struggle. The Fatah Central Committee called on all the national and democratic forces to achieve further unity and integration, consolidate the bases and foundations of the struggle, develop its means and continue confronting racist Zionism and its fascist policy, particularly after it has been absolutely proved that the racist Zionist forces, led by the Likud and Labor Parties, are united in their aim of striking at the struggle of the democratic and national forces in the occupied homeland. The Fatah Central Committee proudly greeted the struggle of our Palestinian people on the occasion of the glorious Land Day, remembering with reverence and loyalty the people's martyrs, and, above all, the glorious Land Day martyrs.

PFLP Message

JN310800 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World in Arabic 1715 GMT 30 Mar 81

["Text" of a recorded call by Bassam Abu Sharif, PFLP Political Bureau member and political Bureau member and official spokesman, addressed to the Palestinians in the occupied land on the occasion of the Land Day anniversary--date and place not given]

[Exceprts] Our kinfolk in the occupied land: Today we all celebrate our day, the day of the Palestinian people, the Day of the Land. Today, inside or outside the homeland, we stand together to record with great pride and honor that our modern triumph following bitter defeat has achieved great victories for our people and Arab nation.

Our kinfolk in the occupied land, your revolution is facing a vicious onslaught by all the enemies of our people and by the enemies of all peoples. In Jordan we are facing Jordanian reaction which is trying to oppress our people and prevent them from carrying out their national duty toward the occupied land, toward you and toward our holy battle against the Zionist enemy. In southern Lebanon we are facing daily implementation of the Knesset decision to liquidate our revolution and people wherever they are. We are facing daily raids, barbaric shelling from the sea, land and air. Our camps and people are facing daily attacks together with our Lebanese people in the villages of the southern Lebanon.

You heroes, you are facing daily oppression by the Zionist military machine exactly as our people outside the homeland face all those kinds of oppression. Despite this onslaught and barbarism, our revolution and our people in the occupied land, as well as in southern Lebanon, have been able to remain steadfast maintaining the difficult equation: against every enemy strike our people achieve a small victory. Under the shadow of this military onslaught, our people are also facing the political conspiracy and the liquidatory attempts and plans of the Europeans and the Americans which are being hatched under the name of a political plan to settle the Middle East crisis. We, as a Palestinian people and a Palestinian revolution, are aware of all these plans and conspiracies. therefore, we will no longer allow any attempt to confuse the Arab or the Palestinian arenas. We are sure that the imperialists and the Zionists harbor nothing but a desire to liquidate our people and revolution.

Our people inside the homeland, we are on the threshold of the convocation of the Palestine National Council. This council will mark a significant development on the march of our Palestinian unity. Our national Palestinian unity is an invaluable thing and a dear demand by each and every Arab and Palestinian citizen. The coming session of our Palestine National Council will inevitably be a prominent landmark that will be cited as a revolution, which will elect a new unified Palestinian leadership that will include all the Palestinian revolution's factions. There is no doubt at all that such a landmark will impel our struggle forward, will bolster your capabilities inside the occupied land and will help you face the Zionist enemy with a more solid fist and much better weapons. Such a landmark will definitely unite your ranks there inside the occupied homeland and our ranks here outside the occupied land.

The year 1981 is the year of rebirth and we are confident that it will be a prominent stage in the march of our revolution and will witness a qualitative escalation of our operations. Forward, our kinfolk inside the homeland. Rest assured that we will stick to our pledge. We will not drop our guns, we will not accept any bargain and we will never relinquish any of our rights. Forward kinfolk, and victory will definitely be ours.

## Rallies, Ceremonies

NC290757 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Today, Sunday, the anniversary celebrations of the glorious Land Day will begin--an occasion when the masses of the occupied homeland will affirm their insistence on continuing the struggle and holding onto the land by confronting the policy of displacement, plunder and Judaization.

A large popular rally will be held in Beersheba today where municipal and national establishments and popular organizations will participate in confirming their rejection of the attempts by Zionist authorities to remove Palestinian citizens and Negev Arabs from their lands, preparatory to turning them into a military airport in implementation of the treacherous Camp David accords.

In the same context, large rallies will be held on Monday and Tuesday at the Nazareth soccer field to celebrate Land Day, which will be considered as gratitude for the heroism, martyrdom and the unity of the Palestinian people. Addresses will be delivered by the Regional Committee for the Defense of the Land and by representatives of the local and Arab authorities as well as national and democratic Palestinian and progressive Jewish personalities.

On the fifth anniversary of Land Day, the Regional Committee for the Defense of the Land has addressed an appeal to all the Palestinian masses in the occupied territory calling on them to effectively participate in this glorious anniversary in order to strengthen the struggle in defense of the land.

In the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the National Guidance Committee has issued a statement to the Palestinian citizens calling on them to organize rallies on 30 March on the occasion of Land Day. In its statement, the committee called on the Palestinian masses to express their rejection of the Zionist occupation and its settlement measures in the occupied territories. It called on the Palestinian citizens to plant trees, as a symbolic measure, in the homeland, which is threatened by the establishment of Israeli settlements. The committee called for the formation of committees for the defense of the land in every township and village in the occupied territories in order to confront the enemy policy of seizing these lands.

On the occasion of the glorious Land Day, the PLO will hold a rally at Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir Hall in the Arab University of Beirut at 1700 tomorrow, Monday, 30 March.

We would like to draw the attention of the brother listeners that on the occasion of Land Day, the Voice of Palestine, the Voice of the Palestinian Revolution, will broadcast additional and special programs beginning tomorrow.

KHOMEYNI SAID TO OFFER FORCE TO LIBERATE PALESTINE

LD251252 Kuwait KUNA in English 1108 GMT 25 Mar 81

[Text] Beirut, 25 Mar (KUNA)--Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Khomeyni was reported Wednesday to have proposed the formation of a five-million-strong force to liberate Palestine from Israeli occupation in two days. The reported proposal was disclosed by pro-Syrian Palestinian guerrilla leader Ahmad Jibril in an interview with the Syrian-backed Lebanese daily newspaper ASH-SHARQ.

Khomeyni, according to Capt. Jabril of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC), "believes that the Arabs and Muslims, equipped even with primitive rifles and moved towards Palestine, all the tanks and warplanes will not be able to do anything when the forces engage each other face-to-face."

"Whoever dies dies, but these five million can cross Palestine's 60-kilometer depth in the first two days," Jibril quoted Khomeyni as predicting. Any type of weapon is incapable of stopping this march, Jibril said and added that Khomeyni has expressed readiness to recruit half a million Iranians for such a force.

Khomeyni, according to Hibril, "is a religious man who understands reality of the revolutionary action."

Jibril said that Khomeyni had met some Palestinian leaders and informed them of his plan. "I learned of the plan which I consider genuine and truly, revolutionary," added Jibril without disclosing names of the guerrilla leaders who met with Khomeyni, where and when.

The hard-line guerrilla leader said the Palestine Liberation Organization reacted only by saying to the United States "bye-bye in Iran." He was apparently referring to a famous speech by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat during which he challenged the U.S. administration of former President Jimmy Carter by repeating the phrase bye-bye America in Iran and not bye-bye PLO.

"We should have invested the Iranian plan in the trench and in combat... We have lost the Iranian support which was ready to dispatch half a million Iranians, under the slogan of Islam, to die in Palestine," Jibril commented without further elaboration on this point.

## BAHRAIN

### AMIR SENDS WISHES FOR QUICK REAGAN RECOVERY

GF311052 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] His highness the amir, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, has sent a cable to U.S. President Ronald Reagan wishing him a quick recovery following the attempted assassination.

## KUWAIT

### AMIR CABLES WISHES FOR SPEEDY REAGAN RECOVERY

LD311112 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] His highness the amir has sent a cable to U.S. President Ronald Reagan congratulating him on his escape from the assassination attempt and wishing him a speedy recovery.

### AS-SABAH SEES ARAB LEAGUE MEETING AS POSITIVE

LD301327 Kuwait AL-HADAF in Arabic 26 Mar 81 pp 1, 7

[By 'Atif 'Awdah]

[Excerpts] Tunis--Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and acting Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah has told AL-HADAF that the meetings of the Arab League Council's 75th session, which finished here yesterday, were positive and that most of the obstacles concerning the Mauritanian-Moroccan dispute were surmounted.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, who chaired the league's session, said that Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi has been authorized to visit Morocco and Mauritania within the framework of the task of normalizing relations between the two countries he added that Klibi has the power to call for a bilateral [Moroccan-Mauritanian] conference at any time.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that he opposes the presence of foreign forces in the Gulf; he emphasized that the area's states are capable of defending themselves. He denied the existence of a Soviet danger threatening the Gulf. He described the American and British threats to intervene in the area as nonsense. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad then referred to a working paper for ending the Syrian-Jordanian dispute and appealing to the two sides not to confront each other.

Regarding the Iraqi-Iranian war, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that Kuwait cannot mediate between the two countries (because one of them is an Arab country), but he expressed hope that the war between them will end and that the area will dedicate its efforts to development.

He lauded the efforts being made by the Islamic Conference Organization, the nonaligned countries and the United Nations to resolve the Iraqi-Iranian conflict.

Regarding the Arab situation, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad expressed his sorrow over the inter-Arab differences. Referring to Lebanon, he said that it is an Arab issue which he hoped will end peacefully.

Discussing oil, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said: The oil is our oil. However, he added that Kuwait has no cause to withhold it from others.

## SAUDI ARABIA

### OIL MINISTER DISCUSSES OIL PRICES, PRODUCTION

LD301430 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1223 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Kuwait, 30 Mar (KUNA)--Saudi Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Wealth Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani today intimated that this country will not cut down its high level of oil production until the oil-exporting countries agree on unified prices.

In an interview with KUNA, Yamani said "before we can talk about production, we must talk about unifying prices, which should take precedence over any other matter."

Shaykh Yamani, who is now on a visit to Kuwait, said in reply to a question on whether Saudi Arabi will continue to maintain its high present level of oil production--now at over 10 million barrels a day--if there was an oil glut in world markets: "The first step should be the unification of oil prices, which by itself will lead to reduction in production--a fair reduction by all OPEC member countries."

Shaykh Yamani called on OPEC member countries to agree to the price and production strategy that was drawn up by an OPEC committee last year. This strategy has not been approved yet.

### PAPERS EXPECT HAIG TO SEE REALITIES, PRIORITIES

30 Mar AL-YAWM

LD301112 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0740 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Riyadh, 30 Mar (SPA)--The Saudi paper AL-YAWM today comments on the tour which U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig plans to make to the Middle East. The paper writes that one cannot overlook the impact which such a tour will have on solving the Arab-Israeli conflict, pointing out that it is a fact that the United States can force Tel Aviv to submit to the logic of right and justice by withdrawing from the occupied territory and accepting the right of the Palestinians to return to their land.

The paper reiterates the region's rejection of all that was reported about Haig's desire to search for a role for the Israeli enemy within the framework of on overall strategy fof confrontation which Washington has embarked upon to deal with the Soviet threat to the region and which the new statesmen in Washington want the Gulf States to join in return for an American settlement of the Middle East conflict.

The paper adds that during his tour, Haig is bound to come face to face with the firmly-established Gulf states' position: The Zionists' evacuation from the occupied Arab territory is the key to peace and stability in the region; the continuation of the occupation will only mean the prolongation of tension; and Israel is the only source of concern in the Middle East and is the primary threat to the Arabs.

The paper calls on the new U.S. administration to rearrange its priorities in the light of these facts.

31 Mar 'UKAZ

LD311002 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0600 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Riyadh, 31 Mar (SPA)--'UKAZ, In its commentary about the forthcoming visit of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig to Saudi Arabia, calls for the American glasses through which U.S. policy sees everything in the Middle East and in the interest of the Israeli enemy to be changed.

It expressed the readiness of Saudi Arabia and the Arab countries to come to an understanding and to respond to Haig if he understands their concept of peace and not the American concept of peace and if his intentions are good and truly aim for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. It stresses Saudi Arabia's adherence to peace in the region, to find a just solution for the question of the people of Palestine, the withdrawal of the Zionist forces from holy Jerusalem and its return to Arab sovereignty. It also stresses that granting the Palestinian people the right to self-determination, and the establishment of their independent state are the only guarantees for peace to prevail in the region, for economic development and the realization of social justice, and therefore, the best security belt against communist infiltration. It draws attention to the fact that Haig should realize that the priorities in the region, the liberation of Jerusalem and the endorsement of the rights of the Palestinian people, are priorities above all others.

PDRY

PFLO SEES INCREASED BRITISH MILITARY PRESENCE

LD292324 Aden Voice of PFLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 29 Mar 81 EA

[Station commentary]

[Text] As U.S. influence is increasing in Oman, the British military and political presence is also increasing. Rising numbers of British officers go there increasing the number of British experts, (?speculators), naval units and pilots. Ninety-five percent of the pilots working in the Omani Air Force are British. The British remain the true rulers of Oman. They control the army, the police and the intelligence. Their grip on these vital institutions has tightened in recent years. The army in Oman relies on brutality and terrorism. [word indistinct]. The regime of Qabus [word indistinct] hostile to the simplest of democratic and general freedoms for the people. The simples of these freedoms available to some extent in a number of neighboring reactionary states and prohibited and considered criminal, for which the Omani regime metes out imprisonment, torture, and a possible death in the cells.

The security situation in the country also deteriorated for the citizens. Criminal, political and tribal killings are widespread in the form of assassinations by various means. Secret arrests are followed by secret, sham trials. People are also tortured physically and mentally.

Areas where the front exercises greater political influence have witnessed extensive search and [word indistinct] campaigns mounted by the armed forces from time to time. The citizens there suffer every form of persecution, terrorism and assault during these campaigns. Students are regularly subjected to detention and various forms of harassment, such as withholding their passports or stopping their bursaries. The intelligence service distributes narcotics and spreads corruption and other things among the youth and women. Shepherds in rural areas are starved, then assembled in specific areas so they can be controlled and their movements checked.

YAR

PRESIDENTIAL CABLE TO REAGAN DEPLORES INCIDENT

JN311213 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, has sent a cable to U.S. President Ronald Reagan in which he expressed his strong denounciation of the heinous incident to which President Reagan was subjected yesterday. He expressed happiness over his safety and wished him a speedy recovery.

AS-SADAT CABLES REAGAN, COMMENTS ON SHOOTING

Cable to Reagan

NC302248 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2245 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Cairo, 30 Mar (MENA)--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat sent an urgent cable to U.S. President Ronald Reagan soon after he heard of the assassination attempt on him in Washington today. The cable reads:

I received with extreme alarm and deep sorrow the report of the criminal attempt you were subjected to today.

While condemning this criminal action, which has shocked the sentiments of the entire world, I implore God Almighty to grant you the blessing of a speedy recovery so that you will resume the leadership of your great and free country.

Comments to Journalists

NC311000 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0942 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Cairo, 31 Mar (MENA)--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has again condemned the assassination attempt which has been made against U.S. President Ronald Reagan. The president has made this condemnation in the statements which he made to foreign and Egyptian correspondents upon his arrival this morning in the Hall of the Central Committee to attend the journalist day celebration.

Asked his feeling toward the attack attempted against U.S. President Ronald Reagan, the president said: I have sent a message to Reagan in which I have expressed my feelings and the feelings of the Egyptian people about this incident. We deplore this action and we pray for Reagan.

President Anwar as-Sadat said: We thank God, because it seems that President Reagan is conducting his business from the hospital, and that he will soon conduct his business from the White House.

The president was asked whether U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig would still tour the Middle East. The president answered that as of this time no change has occurred.

GHALI DENOUNCES ISRAELI CANAL PROJECT APPROVAL

NC292212 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] The Israeli Cabinet today finally approved the digging of a sea-to-sea canal from the Mediterranean to the Dead Sea. It will pass through the occupied Gaza Strip and will be used for generating electricity. Israel radio, which reported this, added that the digging of the approximately 50-mile-long canal will begin within 2 months and that the completion of the project will take from 8 to 10 years.

Commenting on this report, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali says: This decision violates the Camp David accord, the spirit of the peace treaty, international law and the UN Charter and resolutions. It also violates the Geneva agreements regulating the conditions in occupied territories. Dr Ghali added that the occupied Palestinian territory must not be encroached upon, its safety must not be tampered with and that the rights of the Palestinians in it must not be infringed upon. He also said that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry is considering this matter very seriously and that it is studying all its aspects.

GHAZALAH VIEWS SUDAN, LIBYA-SOVIET RELATIONSHIP

NC300635 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2220 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Cairo, 29 Mar (MENA)--The minister of defense and war production, Lt Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, has stated that Egypt's eyes are open and are warily watching whatever is taking place in the Sudan. He added that Egypt will intervene immediately if the Sudan is subjected to any external threat, no matter what its source.

In a special interview with AL-AHRAM to be published tomorrow, the defense minister said that we are working within the framework of the joint Egyptian-Sudanese defense agreement and that technical committees have drawn up plans for various anticipated developments because we always believe in the mutual relationship between threats and their subsequent events. He added that a concept must be formulated as well as a willingness to meet these threats.

With regard to facilities and military bases, Lieutenant General Abu Ghazalah said: "We do not have a single foreign military base. We are granting facilities to the U.S. 'Rapid Deployment Force' because there is a 'rapid invasion force' for which the Soviets are hoarding arms in Libya."

On the recent U.S. statements concerning military aid to Egypt, the defense minister said these are positive statements, no doubt, because they indicate--for the first time--the importance and need for having Egypt become a strong country. These statements also recognize Egypt's unique status in the Arab world.

The defense minister added that the Soviets have provided Libya with ground-to-ground "Scud" and "Frog" missiles and that the Soviets are operating these rockets themselves--and this is a source of danger. The defense minister further said that Libya is playing a prominent role in the deployment of the Soviet forces on a worldwide basis. He added that Libya's geographical location is exemplary for the domination of the Mediterranean and for any infiltration into the heart of Africa.

The defense minister said that Soviet military activity in the Mediterranean and in the African region is primarily based on the Soviet presence in Libya, which has become the cornerstone of the Soviet forces' deployment in the region.

Concerning the rockets manufactured by a German firm in Libya, the defense minister affirmed that Al-Qadhdhafi wants to launch a satellite into space and is paying exorbitant sums of money to this firm in order to manufacture the satellite and the rocket that will carry it. Therefore, the firm is making a profit. This is similar to the foreign pilots in Libya who are earning huge salaries and logging free flight hours without recompense.

PORTUGUESE FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 28 MAR

NC281930 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1820 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA)--Portuguese Foreign Affairs Minister Andre Pereira arrived in Cairo tonight from New York on a 4-day official visit to Egypt, during which he will meet with several senior officials. During his stay in Cairo, the Portuguese foreign minister is expected to sign an agreement for cultural and technical cooperation between the two countries. Pereira was met at the airport by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Salah ad-din Saha'rawi and Portuguese Ambassador in Cairo Constantino Vaz.

DPRK VICE FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 29 MAR

NC291144 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1100 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Cairo, 29 Mar (MENA)--DPRK Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs (?Kim Chai-pong) arrived in Cairo at noon today from San'a' for a 4-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Beginning tomorrow, he will hold talks with Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz on the strengthening of bilateral relations and international issues of interest to both countries. He was received at the airport by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ambassador Salah Sha'rawi and the DPRK charge d'affaires in Cairo.

AS-SADAT SPEECH REITERATES STAND FOR PEACE

NC281819 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1745 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Cairo, 28 Mar (MENA)--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has reiterated Egypt's intention to continue to peace march without going back or hesitating, adding that "to us, peace is a strategic goal on which there can be no compromises or going back."

In a speech addressed today on the occasion of management day, and delivered on his behalf by Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, President as-Sadat said that just as Egypt has embarked on its pioneering peace march from a position of strength, Egypt will continue [its peace march] with a tenacious, unwavering will.

His excellency affirmed Egypt's belief that all the people in the region are aspiring to an overall and just peace that will allow them to direct their energies and capabilities to bolster their security and preserve their social welfare, increase the rate of their development, raise the standard of services and absorb modern technology, with its inherent new horizons, in all spheres.

President as-Sadat said that all the Egyptians share the responsibility for rebuilding Egypt in the era of peace. The president added: "This era demands that each Egyptian should double his efforts and give more in order to serve national interests, because the challenges of peace are no less dangerous and voracious than the challenges of war."

His excellency also affirmed that we intend to face these challenges with all our energies and will, "because we are aware that many things depend on the success of the general efforts which will be exerted by our official and popular establishments during the forthcoming years. These efforts will be made by people who believe in their God and who are faithful to their people."

AS-SADAT ADDRESSES PROBLEMS OF YOUTH CONFERENCE

NC301230 [Editorial Report] Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1030 GMT on 30 March begins a live relay of the opening session of the Conference on the problems of youth in the Islamic world, which includes a 9-minute address by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat beginning at 1146 GMT.

Following his entry into the conference hall amid prolonged applause, an unidentified speaker opens the conference with a speech in which he thanks President as-Sadat for building Egypt on the bases of science and faith. The speaker goes on to laud As-Sadat's numerous victories, including the October war victory. After a number of other speakers take the rostrum, extolling the position of Al-Azhar Islamic University in Egyptian and Islamic life, President Anwar as-Sadat comes forward to award medals to several Islamic religious men.

At the conclusion of the awards presentation, the audience requests the president to speak. Responding to the audience's request, President Anwar as-Sadat states that he is not prepared to speak and will reserve his speech for the major celebration marking the 1,000-year anniversary of Al-Azhar University, saying that "Al-Azhar has defended Islam from all ferocious onslaughts, from imperialism and from all corruptors." As-Sadat then goes on to speak about a grant and an award to the university rector. As-Sadat closes his remarks by appealing to the audience to build a new Egyptian man according to the values of this land taught by the tolerant Islamic religion.

HAMMADI SEES U.S. AS 'REAL, DIRECT DANGER' TO GULF

LD300919 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 26 Mar 81 p 17

[Interview granted by Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi to AR-RIYAD correspondent in Tunis--date not specified]

[Excerpts] [Question] How did the meetings of the [Arab League Council] session go and what have the Arab foreign ministers done in order overcome certain differences?

[Answer] If we look at the situation in the Arab arena we find that some of the differences are not new to us; some of them were to be expected and others were unexpected. We believe that whatever new differences of views there are will vanish and that what matters is the actual results. Furthermore, the Arab League has proved on many occasions that it is the effective means to overcome all problems. The Arab League's work has been successful in the case of the dispute between North Yemen and South Yemen and between Tunisia and Libya.

[Question] It was announced that relations between Khartoum and Cairo have been restored. Is Khartoum's step contrary to Baghdad summit resolutions?

[Answer] All the Arab countries that have approved the Baghdad summit resolutions have automatically implemented those resolutions. We hope that there will be no Arab rift or departure from the Baghdad summit resolution by any party. Thanks to commitment top the summit resolutions the Camp David accords have become a dead letter. It is our duty to always work within a broad united Arab front. Despite the announcement that relations between Egypt and Sudan have been restored I do not think that a rift in the Arab front will occur.

[Question] Certain foreign quarters alleged that the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council is directed against Iraq. What is your comment on such allegation?

[Answer] Foreign quarters always try to incite the Arab countries against one another. We, as a country led by a party that believes in Arab unity and rapprochement, encourage the establishment of any Arab grouping and every cooperation that is compatible with our policies. We reiterate that we welcome and bless the creation of the Cooperation Council and at the same time call for the strengthening of the Arab League.

[Question] It is being said that there is a Soviet threat to the Gulf area because some of the countries have entered into alliance with foreign major powers. What is Iraq's view on this matter?

[Answer] Both the Soviet Union and the United States constitute a danger to the Gulf. So far, from our viewpoint, the ones who constitute a real and direct danger are the Americans, the backers of Israel. According to information available to me, the Gulf states are not agreeable to the establishment of U.S. bases in the area. Indeed the Gulf states are seeking to liquidate whatever is left of the influence of the major powers.

[Question] What is Iraq's attitude toward the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force [RDF].

[Answer] We have objected to the idea altogether just as we said that the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan should not be a pretext for U.S. intervention.

[Question] Does not the Soviet presence in Afghanistan constitute a danger?

[Answer] It is natural that the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan should constitute a danger.

[Question] Iraq held contacts with France regarding armament. Is there any new development in this regard?

[Answer] We have old contracts with France; only these will be implemented.

'AZIZ SPEAKS IN MOROCCO ON MEDIATION COMMITTEE

LD302236 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] This evening King Hassan II received in audience at the royal palace in Marrakech Mr Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister, member of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council and envoy of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to his majesty. Present at the audience were Prime Minister and Justice Minister Matti Bouabid, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Mr M'hamed Boucetta, and Iraqi Ambassador to Rabat Mr Rayiz 'Awni Bakr Sudqi. The Iraqi deputy prime minister said after the meeting:

[Begin recording] First of all I should like to express my pleasure and happiness at having an audience with King Hassan II and conveying a personal message to his majesty from his brother, President Saddam Husayn.

My mission is connected with the fraternal relations between Iraq and Morocco, relations which are very firm. It is also connected with the current Arab situation. President Saddam Husayn wanted to inform his brother the king of the development in the current situation and Iraq's concern to see the atmosphere of fraternity and solidarity prevail among the Arab countries. I am happy to say that, as I expected, I found in his majesty deep understanding and readiness to do everything possible to realize this pan-Arab goal.

[Question] Deputy prime minister, will you please tell us what progress the Islamic committee has made regarding the problem between Iraq and Iran?

['Aziz] As a matter of fact, the committee has made its first attempt to learn the opinion of Iraq and Iran about the current conflict. It then submitted some proposals. It is now on a second tour; we expect it in Baghdad soon, maybe tomorrow. For our part, we will cooperate to the utmost with this committee as we have done in the past. As President Saddam Husayn declared in his speech at the At-Ta'if Islamic conference, Iraq's attitude toward the conflict is quite clear; it seeks to establish relations on bases acceptable to world public opinion and international law, that is, the prevalence between Iraq and the Arabs on the one hand and Iran on the other hand of the principle of not allowing the takeover of others' territory by force and the principle of returning it directly to its owner; and also the prevalence of good-neighbor relations [words indistinct].

We believe that these are principles which the world believes in and respects and which it also deems necessary for sound relations between neighboring countries. If the Iranian side is willing to accept these principles, the committee will then succeed in its work. But if the Iranian side insists on its unprincipled and illogical stances which are known to all, the fate of the committee's work will be vague, since reconciliation requires the approval of both sides. For our part, we believe in and approve these principles; we do our utmost for them. [end recording]

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 291

JN301731 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1703 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Communique No 291 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 30 March]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With valor and capability our valiant armed forces dealt blows to the troops of the ignorant Persian enemy in the operational sectors. The following are the results of the activities last night and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Eight were killed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
B. Our units pounded enemy troop concentrations in the Gilan-e Gharb area, forcing them to retreat after sustaining 22 dead and 2 destroyed guns.
C. Six were killed in the Sumar area.
D. An enemy troops concentration was sighted opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd. Using artillery and medium weapons, our units attacked the concentration, forcing it to flee leaving behind 11 dead.
E. Four were killed and one infantry position and two vehicles were destroyed in the Mehran area.
F. Eight were killed and one tank, three vehicles--one loaded with hardware--and one gun were destroyed in the Dezful area.
G. Four were killed and four vehicles, two loaded with hardware, were destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
H. A force of our units clashed with an enemy force in the Ahvaz area. The enemy was forced to retreat after a fiery battle in which various weapons were used. The enemy sustained 54 dead, whose bodies are still scattered on the battle field. Also, two vehicles loaded with hardware were destroyed.
I. Seven were killed and one infantry position, one armored personnel carrier, three vehicles and two guns were destroyed in the Abadan area.

Thus, the total known enemy losses amount to 124 dead, 2 infantry positions, 1 tank, 1 armored personnel carrier, 14 vehicles and 5 guns of various calibers.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 17 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Two personnel carriers, one vehicle, two mortars, one gun and one armored car were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 March 1981

SADDAM HUSAYN CONCLUDES NORTHERN INSPECTION TOUR

JN302012 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Staff Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the armed forces, has resumed his inspection tour of the districts, subdistricts and villages of the Nineveh Governorate. His excellency today visited the Ash-Sharqat and Al-Hadr Districts as well as a peasant village in the governorate. During his visit to the Al-Hadr District, the president leader was briefed on the masses' needs. He gave instructions to officials to meet these needs.

Addressing the Ash-Sharqat District masses, President-Leader Saddam Husayn lauded the Iraqi women's heroism and their keen desire to attain the honor of participating in the brilliant victories our armed forces are scoring.

Talking to the Al-Hadr District masses, who rallied to greet his excellency, the president said that all Iraqis are fighting on the front according to their capabilities. He who is dedicated to his work will be serving the front regardless of his position.

President Saddam Husayn concluded his Nineveh tour today.

BA'TH PARTY DELEGATION LEAVES FOR BULGARIA

JN301114 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Mar (INA)--A Ba'th Party delegation headed by 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin, member of the Regional Command and assistant head of the Foreign Relations Office in the National Command, left Baghdad for Sofia today on an official visit to Bulgaria. The Ba'th Party delegation will participate in the 12th Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party to begin tomorrow.

AL-MUSTAQBAL INTERVIEWS KING ON ARAB, OTHER ISSUES

JN290958 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 28 Mar pp 10-13

[King Husayn interview with AL-MUSTAQBAL correspondent Hani Khayr in Amman--date not given]

[Text] Question: U.S. President Reagan's administration has announced that in the Middle East the confrontation of Soviet infiltration of the area is a greater priority than devoting its attention to the Arab-Israeli dispute. Does the visit of the U.S. State Department secretary, Gen Alexander Haig, concern this policy?

Answer: At this stage I wish to say that I still hope the United States will seek out facts and formulate a sound stand that will not keep the new U.S. administration prisoner of past policies, former stands, past tragedies and dangers. On the other hand, I believe that the Palestinian cause is the cause of Arab rights which have been wronged, it is the cause of Jerusalem, and the cause of the Palestinian people on their national soil. This tragedy, in itself, is the key to the situation in the entire area. It is the major cause of instability in this part of the world. Therefore, it is necessary to concentrate on this cause to achieve justice and restore rights to their owners. Without this, I do not believe that it will be easy for anyone to imagine an area where security, in the sense of which I am speaking, can prevail.

As for Mr Haig's visit, what we have heard is that the U.S. State Department secretary will visit the area to contact its officials, exchange viewpoints and study the situation at close range. According to what we have learned, this visit at this stage is considered preparation for the formulation of a new policy by the new U.S. administration. We hope that this policy will support justice.

Question: Does this mean that there will be no specific topics to be discussed between General Haig and Your Majesty?

Answer: No. There are no specific topics.

Question: Are you still planning to visit the United States?

Answer: The visit still stands, but no specific date has been set so far. When agreement is reached on its date, or when the time comes, I will leave for the United States to defend our cause to the best of my abilities.

Question: What is Your Majesty's reply to the so-called Jordanian option championed by Shim'on Peres concerning the fate of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip?

Answer: Israel seeks to achieve a specific objective by putting forth such proposals. Jordan's stand is clear and frank. We do not accept any solution to the Palestinian cause which the basic, principal and central party, that is the Palestinian party, does not contribute to, or participate in, formulating. The Palestinian cause cannot be solved without the Palestinians. We agree with them on this and we support them to the maximum. Through this attempt Israel wishes to plot against, cast doubts upon and harm the sons of the one family in order to make us enter labyrinths: Who speaks on behalf of whom? When? This takes place at a time when Isreal is, in practice, trying to strengthen its position on the occupied Arab territories and to absorb more of the dear Arab lands, whether in Jerusalem or in all the other occupied territories. Israel's objectives are well known. I cannot understand or explain the so-called Jordanian option. The only option that exists is the one that is not formulated by Israel or any other party. The only option which is worthy of concentration is the Palestinian option. It is the participation of the Palestinians in regaining their full rights, with the full backing of the Arab nation and the entire world. After this they are free to choose what they want.

Question: Then Jordan has nothing to do with the Jordanian option?

Answer: As you have said, this is an intrigue meant to cast doubts.

Question: With Your Majesty's permission, can we now discuss the question of your visit t· the Soviet Union which is scheduled to take place soon, after it had been postponed more than once? Have there been any new developments in Jordanian-Soviet relations, in light of the peace initiative announced by Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev at the 26th CPSU Congress?

Answer: There is no specific topic which can be considered as the cause for this visit. Jordanian-Soviet relations are constantly progressing in all spheres. They are based on mutual respect, frankness and clarity. When the visit takes place, and I hope this will be soon, there will be an opportunity to exchange viewpoints on all the issues and stands that will strengthen these relations on sound and firm bases on the one hand and that will develop them on the other hand in such a manner as to deal with all the issues in the area, particularly the Palestinian cause. We believe that there must be international effort and serious action toward this cause. On this basis we have welcomed and will continue to welcome the European initiative. We believe that all those who are concerned about the establishment of a just and lasting peace in the area must pool their efforts and offer what they can for the sake of achieving this objective.

Question: Will there be any discussion in Moscow on providing Jordan with weapons?

Answer: I do not believe that there are specific topics concerning this subject that will be discussed during this visit. However, there is a time for everything.

Question: Why doesn't Jordan resort to someone other than the United States as a supplier of weapons as long as the United States does not provide Jordan with its full requirements for weapons and as long as the Zionist enemy always tries to hamper Jordan's plans to arm itself from the United States?

Answer: In fact, Jordan is implementing a policy which it had set for itself sometime ago. It is in line with the policies of sister Arab countries. This policy is based on diversification of arms sources. In principle Jordan looks for new sources of weapons outside the framework of the two big powers.

Question: Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat has called for the formation of a Palestinian government-in-exile that will take care of the affairs of Palestinians in the occupied territories and outside them. Has this call found any response from Arab officials, particularly from the Jordanian Government?

Answer: I have not sensed any response to this call. We know that the PLO is the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative. We are very concerned about the PLO's independence, so that it will not be affected by anything, far or near, in order to have it reflect the real aspirations and hopes of the Palestinian people. We believe then that the decision will be that of the Palestinian people, who will decide their own present and future, whether concerning a government-in-exile or continuing on their current course.

Question: Your Majesty, are you in favor of establishing a Palestinian government-in-exile?

Answer: The core of the problem is that no one has the right, whether it is President as-Sadat, any other party or me personally, to interfere in the affairs of Palestinians concerning such proposals.

Question: Israel is still bent on establishing new settlements on the occupied territories despite world opposition. What is the purpose behind the establishment of these settlements?

Answer: Israel is proceeding on the course it has set for itself. It is defying the Arab nation, the Islamic world and the entire world by carrying out practices which contradict the image or impressions any person who speaks about right may have. Israel has started from a small point and continues to expand its aggression by force. It is proceeding on this course which I believe will not be in its interest in the long run. It has been our fate to confront these challenges. We are, however, confident of the inevitability of the triumph of right over wrong and of the fact that this nation possesses the strength that will make it capable of confronting this challenge, achieving justice, restoring the land to its owners and saving Arab Jerusalem so that it will return to Arab sovereignty once again.

Question: Do you believe that the establishment of these settlements will be a subject of bargaining and pressure by Israel in the future?

Answer: From the beginning Israel has gone beyond the [1948] partition lines, considering that the only border demarcations are the partition lines. Israel has been following a consistent policy of placing a new fait accompli before the world. It has continued to occupy the entire land of Palestine in addition to other Arab territories belonging to Arab countries. Israel will try, in one way or another, to exploit any suitable circumstances to achieve more expansion through any aggression against the Arab nation. Zionism and perhaps other parties in this world are also working to internationalize the dispute in this part of the world. To us as Arabs, internationalization means the loss of our identity and the loss of our capability to regain our rights one day. This means--before internationalization takes place in this manner and form--that the situation will explode, not only in this part of the world, but also in the rest of it.

Question: Your Majesty, what is your opinion of the U.S. proposals concerning the security of the Gulf and the call for the formation of a U.S.-British-French naval force to protect the Gulf? Why is the United States concerned about this call?

Answer: Naturally, the world is increasingly feeling that this area has become the most sensitive and most important part of the world because of the presence of sources of energy and the big powers' struggle nearby. I, however, am convinced that this land can be protected only by its inhabitants and owners. The major step which could lead to a state of peace and security in this part of the world is if this world succeeds in performing its duties toward settling the Palestinian issue, which is the central issue in this part of the world, and toward seeking a just and honorable solution that will also be firm and lasting, of which future generations will be proud. Naturally, what I hear from the West and East about this area causes me anxiety. All this makes one believe that there is a new reality and that the area has been divided once again into zones of influence. All this poses a threat to the Arab individual and the Arab homeland. We must realize this fact and this reality and deal with everybody on the premise of our concern for maintaining our personality, defending our rights and freedom and, as Arabs, for being the only party which will be responsible for protecting our land and our future generations.

Question: Your Majesty, what are the causes of the endless Arab disputes, most of which take place among leaders and not among the peoples? Do you attribute this to the lack of democracy in our countries?

Answer: In fact, this is one of the causes which has led to such disputes. There are, however, other reasons, one of which is that this important part of the world is coveted, in a practical sense, in view of its strategic location and resources. This or that foreign party tries to impose its hegemony on this area and to divide it once again into zones of influence.

Thus, the Arab individual who is linked to the past of this nation and to its long struggle is the target. In any case, we are working for the sake of the Arab individual and the Arab personality. We are working to maintain the ties that bind us to the past of this noble and immortal nation. We are working for the future of this nation and, in time, we hope that we shall succeed in overcoming all these tragedies which we experience from time to time.

Question: Is it Your Majesty's intention to attempt to patch up Arab fragmentation and bring cohesion back into Arab brotherly relations?

Answer: We will do our best in this respect, as we always have. I referred to the international situation in order to say that our situation is a result of its effects on the Arab world. However, we and all the free people of the Arab world believe in the inevitability of our reaching our goals and objectives, preservation of freedom, brotherhood, and mobilization of energies and resources to build the desired future for the coming generations.

On my part, I will not discard any opportunity that presents itself to me to solve these differences and I will not slacken in performing any duties that I can toward my nation.

Question: With regard to Lebanon, Your Majesty what are your expectations for the solution of this problem, which has brought destruction and ruin upon Lebanon and its people?

Answer: The situation in Lebanon is a real tragedy. As a matter of fact, we remember, for example, the first Arab summit conference, at which I had the honor of representing Jordan. I recall our warning to our brothers against aggressive Israeli intentions toward southern Lebanon and Israel's designs on the sources of the River Jordan. Today we see this painful picture. When fraternal Syria entered Lebanon, we imagined that the result would be to stop the hemorrhage in that country and to provide an atmosphere for a meeting between the brother sons of Lebanon and the brother Palestinians in Lebanon in order to find a formula acceptable to all, which would spare Lebanon the danger and stop the hemorrhage. Regrettably, however, things did not take this course. We still feel that it is necessary to provide an opportunity for the sons of Lebanon and our Palestinian brothers in Lebanon to find a common formula for a new Lebanon in which all the causes that led to this tragic situation will be removed. The same applies to our Palestinian brothers who are in Lebanon until they regain their rights on their national soil and their question is solved. We must exert every effort in this respect, so that Lebanon returns to what we want and wish for it to be.

Question: How does Your Majesty view the Amman summit resolutions, and how many of them have been carried out to date?

Answer: Concerning these resolutions, you have been put in the picture. In terms of implementation, these resolutions are being carried out in a satisfactory manner, thank God. I believe that they were a good start and we hope to continue our joint action to arrive at our goals and objectives.

Question: What is Your Majesty's impression of Iran's rejection of Islamic mediation, and do you believe that the good offices of the committee of nonaligned countries will find acceptance and a response by the Iranian Government?

Answer: It was hoped that the message and will of the Islamic nation would be accepted. In my view a cease-fire should have taken effect at once, following which both sides should have immediately moved to discuss the reasons leading to the conflict and toward solving the historical problems which led to this tense and explosive situation, not only between Iran and Iraq, but between Iran and other Arab brothers throughout the Gulf.

This tension may lead to grave repercussions even in the international arena and may be the reason for the presence of fleets mounting surveillance on each other in an important part of our Arab and Islamic world. It was hoped that firm and lasting foundations would be laid to solve all problems and issues and to return all relations to what they should have been in the first place--fraternal relations of mutual respect and nonintervention by each quarter in the internal affairs of the other quarter, relations of trust and joint action for the good of Islam and Arabism, resulting in our arrival at our joint objectives and goals.

Question: Does Your Majesty believe that Iran's rejection of Islamic mediation was due to Iraq's attendance at the At-Ta'if conference?

Answer: Iraq has the right to attend the At-Ta'if conference and so does Iran, as a matter of fact. In my opinion Iran's nonattendance in itself drew a very great amount of attention.

Question: Do you believe that prolongation of the Iraqi-Iranian war will weaken Iraq and harm its role in the area?

Answer: Such thoughts stem not only from Iraq's enemies but also from the Arab nation's enemies. On the other hand, naturally, no one wants this war to continue indefinitely. On the contrary, our hopes and wishes are that the war will end as soon as possible and that all its causes will be eliminated. Unquestionably, this would be for the good of Iran and Iraq.

Question: Your Majesty, you enjoy a certain position among Iraqi and Iranian Muslims. Can this be an incentive for an initiative on your part to end the Iraqi-Iranian war and thus end the differences between the two countries?

Answer: We are proud of the Islamic ties that bind us all together. We have always worked for strengthening these ties among brothers. As for the explosion which took place as a result of practices by our brothers in Iran and of which we are aware, they were not directed against Iran alone but also against our brothers in the Gulf, the Arab world and the Islamic world. These practices compelled us to support justice, especially since we sensed some trends to divide ranks under the pretext of a concern for religion and Islamic brotherhood between the Sunni and the Shi'ite. This constitutes the biggest threat to our joint march, aspirations and hopes as Muslims.

Question: What do you have in common with President Saddam Husayn? What were Your Majesty's feelings when the Iraqi people decorated you with a medal as an expression of appreciation for you?

Answer: In fact, I am proud of the brotherhood that exists between us. He is a noble and gallant Arab, a wise leader and a man who works for the future. That's what is common between us. We live to do what we can for the good and welfare of the future Arab generations. As for the medal, I was deeply touched. I accepted this honor for this country--Jordan--which is standing fast in the face of challenges and dangers.

Question: With your permission Your Majesty, I would like to ask a personal question. What is Your Majesty's opinion of AL-MUSTAQBAL?

Answer: I read AL-MUSTAQBAL weekly and I follow its progress closely, particularly its determination to raise the banner of the free and sincere press. I admire and appreciate it and I wish those who manage it all success and progress in the service of our pan-Arab causes.

Question: What are Your Majesty's wishes for the nation?

Answer: My wishes for my Arab nation is that it will achieve its complete unity from the ocean to the Gulf, that division will be removed and that harmony will prevail to allow this nation to continue the noble mission which it has championed through the ages.

AL-WAZZAN VIEWS CURRENT SECURITY SITUATION

NC301337 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Regarding the security situation, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said today: According to the information we received today, the security situation is satisfactory and moving toward stability. We are on constant watch because there are people who will always try to disturb the security situation. After the recent incidents and the contacts that took place with the officials, it seems there is a satisfactory and relative stability, which we hope will continue.

Asked about Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib's [Arab Deterrent Forces commander] mission in Syria, he said that it is a continuation of the contacts to carry out what was agreed upon at the Damascus summit meeting.

Regarding the situation in the south, he said: The situation there remains the same, and we are waiting for the UN forces to take the necessary measures with the Lebanese military command to utilize the Lebanese military force, which is ready to enter the UNIFIL operations area.

Regarding the threats being made by Israel and Haddad [free Lebanon commander], he said: It is out of the question for us to submit to the threats of Sa'd Haddad.

IDDIH ATTACKS ISRAELI POSITION ON ARMY DEPLOYMENT

NC302138 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Information Minister Michel Iddih today made the following statement on the army's deployment to the south:

Since the discussion to send the army to southern Lebanon began, we have heard fabricated and suspect campaigns by Israel every day on this issue. The Israeli threats and warnings against the deployment of the Lebanese army to the south are emphasized each day--once by Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin and again by Chief of Staff Eytan. They are continuing this despite the fact that, on the one hand, the decision to send the army to the south is a purely Lebanese one dictated by the requirements of sovereignty and independence, as I have said before and, on the other hand, the task of the army is currently confined to the tasks assigned to the UNIFIL force.

It is strange that Israel should portray to world public opinion that sending a number of army personnel to their land in the south constitutes a major sensitive issue, as the Israeli chief of staff stated to Israeli radio on 29 March. In addition, we absolutely reject his description of the Lebanese Army as well as his opposition to its right to deploy to the various parts of its territory. This is only one of the forms of continuing Israeli encroachment against Lebanon and its security, sovereignty and independence.

The information minister further said: We must make certain facts clear so that the citizens will become aware of an issue on which certain parties have adopted poorly considered positions which embarrass the government and portray it unfairly.

One of these facts is Lebanon's position on the armistice agreement that regulates the relationship with Israel. The armistice agreement concluded with Israel on 23 March 1949 in Ra's an-Naqurah provides for limiting the Lebanese force stationed on the border --according to paragraph 1 from article 1 regarding the right to specify the defense forces--as follows: The defense military force outlined in article 5 regarding Lebanon will not exceed two infantry battalions and two companies from the regular Lebanese Army, one field artillery company consisting of four guns and one company of light armor and guns, totaling 1,500 officers and soldiers.

It is worth noting that article 5 of the armistice agreement provides that the dividing truce line is the international borderline between Lebanon and Palestine. This article has a special, basic importance to Lebanon, because this agreement with Lebanon is the only one that recognizes the international border as a dividing line, whereas the armistice agreements concluded in the same period with Syria, Egypt and Jordan recognize the cease-fire line as the truce line.

The information minister continued: Lebanon has constantly and firmly been careful to adhere to the armistice agreement in order to safeguard its territory and border throughout the years and successive governments despite Israel's attempts, particularly since 1967, to violate this agreement. Lebanon does not believe in any other international document to define its status toward Israel--a stand to which Lebanon has always adhered at the international level, despite various forms of pressure, and a stand which the UN Security Council has repeatedly emphasized--and the Lebanese officers who take part in the Joint Armistice Committee meetings, in the presence of UN observers, are always eager to write down in the minutes of the meetings that they are attending in their capacity as representatives of the Lebanese side within the framework of the armistice agreement. The Israeli officers, however, say that they do not attend the meetings within the framework of this agreement.

Since Lebanon's vital interest lies in adhering precisely to the armistice agreement and in not giving pretext to Israel to breach or evade it before border reconsideration, could Lebanon confront Israel militarily with the military potential outlined in the agreement? Demanding that Lebanon confront Israel militarily would lead to either of two things: asking 1,500 Lebanese officers and soldiers, with only 20 armored vehicles and 4 field guns, to commit suicide; or demanding that the armistice agreement be breached and thus giving Israel the chance to carry out its well-known schemes in southern Lebanon, and its waters. I leave it to those who demand this to assess whether their stand is consistent with Lebanon's interests and the integrity of its land and people. In addition, the UN General Assembly and the Security Council have always upheld this agreement as valid.

The information minister then said: One of the facts that must also be brought out is that the successive Lebanese Governments since 1978 have sought to (?authorize) the Security Council to give the UNIFIL force stationed in the south a deterrent status. Lebanon's permanent UN representative has also demanded this, but the international forums have rejected this demand. Accordingly, the Security Council assigned the UNIFIL force the task of keeping peace only, thus limiting its powers and the ways of using it. This means that the UNIFIL force has no combat status and consequently the army forces working within UNIFIL have no such tasks.

It is also worth noting that under the current international circumstances, particularly the Polish crisis and the possibility of a confrontation and the preoccupation of world public opinion with this crisis, it is possible that the Begin government--now on the threshold of decisive elections--might be encouraged to exploit these circumstances and launch a large-scale military operation to strike at the Palestinian resistance and to drag Syria into a military confrontation. This reminds us of world events in 1956, when the Hungarian crisis deteriorated to the point of confrontation. Israel then exploited the Hungarian crisis and launched its well-known aggression against Egypt.

In conclusion the information minister said: I am confident that all Lebanese who are concerned about Lebanon's future and the integrity of its territory and people agree on these facts, which no one denies. In the present circumstances we had better not resort to emotion and bickering so we can facilitate the army's performance of its duty.

BEIRUT REPORTS 31 MAR ISRAELI LANDING NEAR TYRE

NC310725 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] At around 0100 today an Israeli commando force used rubber dinghies in a landing attempt on the coast of the Jall al-Bahr area near Tyre. The dinghies were lowered into the sea from an Israeli naval vessel. The Israeli commando force made the landing under cover of artillery fire in which Israeli naval units participated. Their ships were anchored at a medium distance from the shore. Israeli helicopters also participated in this operation, overflying the sea and the airspace of the Burj ash-Shamali camp, Jall al-Bahr, Shabriha and Ar-Rashidiyah. The raiding Israeli force clashed for some time elements present in the target area. Afterward the Israeli force withdrew under cover of artillery shelling. There is information that there were casualties among the members of the raiding force. The damage is now being determined.

MAJOR HADDAD HOPES FOR SPEEDY REAGAN RECOVERY

NC310652 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] In free Lebanon Major Haddad thanked God for saving President Reagan from the heinous assassination attempt. Major Haddad also asked all the people of free Lebanon to say special prayers to Almighty God for a speedy recovery of President Reagan. Major Haddad said that the presence of President Reagan as the leader of the Free World is a guarantee for preserving the rights of the weak and persecuted peoples everywhere. He said that President Reagan is also a force to be reckoned with in fighting international terrorism and confronting the subversive communist onslaught.

MAJOR HADDAD ASSAILS AL-WAZZAN, ADF COMMANDER

NC310736 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Major Haddad has commented on some current topics as follows:

1. We ask [Prime Minister] Shafiq al-Wazzan, who says he does not pay attention to Major Haddad's threats, to come at the head of the army which he will send storming into free Lebanon.

2. [Arab Deterrent Forces Commander] Sami al-Khatib has stated that the security measures agreed upon at the Damascus summit [between Presidents Sarkis and al-Asad] will be implemented. We in turn tell Al-Khatib that the best implementation would be the evacuation of the Syrian forces from Lebanon once and for all.

3. We do not understand how a house in the town of Zahlah could have been mistakenly hit by a round fired from a Syrian tank. Did the tank turn into a hunting rifle which always has another round in its firing chamber? We also ask whether the economic blockade of Zahlah has been imposed by mistake and whether the arrests of Zahlah's youths and their imprisonment in Syrian dungeons are also considered as mistakes? When will the Syrians cease uttering these lies? and when will the representatives of the town of Zahlah act to acquaint world public opinion with the atrocities committed against their town before it is too late?

4. Let [the leader of the Murabitun movement] Qulaylat understand that there are several thousand army elements besides officers Adib Rashid and Nabil Qar'ah, who are ready to fight the Syrians, the Palestinians and their lackeys, such as Qulaylat and others. These army elements will sooner or later join the free Lebanon army and will quench their thirst with the blood of the occupiers.

BEGIN, SHAMIR EXPRESS SHOCK OVER REAGAN SHOOTING

TA310543 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] The Israeli prime minister has reacted with shock and astonishment at the news of the assassination attempt on the life of President Reagan in Washington. Begin received word of the shooting from an aide by telephone. The prime minister's spokesman said a message was sent to the President wishing him a speedy recovery.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir also sent a telegram through the Israeli Embassy in Washington. He expressed his shock at the attempt on the life of the leader of the Free World.

Envoy Delays Return

TA310710 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] This morning President Yitzhaq Navon sent a message to President Reagan, wishing him a speedy recovery. The cable was sent through U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis.

Last night Prime Minister Menahem Begin sent a similar message.

Our political correspondent reported that Israel's ambassador to Washington, Efrayim 'Evron, has postponed his arrival in Israel. He was supposed to arrive today to help prepare for U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's visit. However, at this stage, it is not clear whether or not Haig's visit will be carried out as planned.

CONSULTATIONS PRODUCE QUESTIONS FOR HAIG

TA271203 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 27 Mar 81 p 8 Weekend Supplement

[By Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] In view of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig's visit to Israel on 5 April mutual consultations have recently taken place between ministers and IDF officers to determine the issues that Israel will raise with Haig during his 24-hour stay in Israel.

The consultations were attended by Prime Minister Begin, Ministers Yadin, Ehrlich, Shamir, Sharon, Burg, Hammer, Nisim, Shostak, the chief of staff and senior IDF officers. It was decided that the main question that will be posed to Alexander Haig during his stay in Israel will be: What is the actual significance of your statements that the State of Israel constitutes a strategic asset for the West and particularly to the United States?

The Israeli leaders apparently have a reason to be satisfied with the Reagan administration's statements about the affairs of this region. However, Washington has made various moves which gave reason for great concern in Jerusalem. Can one ignore reports from different sources about Reagan's plan to deliver large quantities of arms to the Arab countries? Israel is concerned about the risks of massive quantities of qualitative weapons in the hands of the Arabs who also receive arms from the Soviet Union, France, Britain, Italy and West Germany.

The chief of staff has recently said that Syria alone currently has more tanks than the Nazis when they invaded Russian in World War II. The U.S. secretary of state will be requested to answer the question: How can Israel's military superiority in the maddening arms race in the region be guaranteed without destroying Israel's economy? Haig will be told that Israel's economic capabilities are limited and, thus, it is unable to amass such large quantities of modern and sophisticated arms.

Other questions that will be posed to Alexander Haig:

--How does the United States intend to establish a strategic alignment in the Middle East to curb Soviet expansion in view of the relations existing at this moment between Israel, Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia?

--How can Western interests in the region be protected without a U.S. military presence in the area? The United States has recently been talking about "a presence in the offing," namely, presence in the sea and in military bases rather than a military presence in the field.

--Has the United States learned the lesson of the events in Iran? Israel fears that the sophisticated arms delivered to Saudi Arabia will ultimately land in the hands of the enemies of the United States, as was the case in Iran.

--Does the Reagan administration see itself as loyally committed to the Camp David accords signed by President Carter? It is feared in Jerusalem that the U.S. administration is trying to include Saudi Arabia in the peace process. It has also been learned that the Egyptians have been holding talks with the Saudis to soften their positions. In the wake of Shim'on Peres' talks on this issue with the Moroccan king and King Husayn's brother, Begin will try to find out the U.S. intentions regarding Saudi Arabia and the Jordanian option.

The situation in Lebanon will also be raised. The United States stood at Israel's side at the Security Council when the latter wanted to denounce us for the incident in southern Lebanon where UNIFIL soldiers were killed by Major Haddad's forces. This fact notwithstanding, it is known that the United States has some reservations about Israel's behavior in southern Lebanon and it believes that Israel is not doing enough to ease tensions in the area.

The prime minister's office and the Foreign Ministry are not pleased with the position of the IDF, which unreservedly supports Major Haddad. Jerusalem has the impression that Haddad has been exploiting the differing approaches of Begin, Shamir and the chief of staff concerning Israeli moves in Lebanon.

IDF HITS 'TERRORIST TARGETS' NORTH OF TYRE

TA310509 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] An IDF force operated last night against terrorist targets north of Tyre and returned home safely. This was reported by the IDF spokesman. In the course of the operation, several vehicles were destroyed and some terrorists were hurt. Our forces suffered no casualties.

HADDAD OUTLINES GROUNDS FOR MILITARY MOVE

TA290530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Commander of the Christian militias Maj Sa'd Haddad last night said that the imminent arrival of Lebanese Army troops to the villages of Bra'shit and Ash-Shaqra' would constitute for him a reason to wage a military operation against them. Major Haddad told our military correspondent, Shmu'el Tal, that he would accede to leaving the situation as is in the village of Al-Qantarah, where a Lebanese Army unit has been stationed together with UNIFIL soldiers. However, a move of additional troops to the enclave would encounter a violent reaction. Haddad said that most of the inhabitants of Al-Qantarah returned to their village during the weekend following his advice. He denounced UNIFIL Commander General Callaghan for striving to dismantle the enclave and promoting Syria's affairs in Lebanon and called for Callaghan's immediate replacement.

OAU DEFENSE COMMISSION SESSION OPENS 30 MAR

LD302256 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 30 Mar 81 EA

[Excerpts] The OAU Defense Commissions's seventh regular session was opened this afternoon at the Africa Hall with a keynote address by Comrade Brig Gen Haile Giorgis Habte Mariam, chief of staff of the armed forces and member of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] Central Committee.

In his opening address, Comrade Brig Gen Haile Giorgis Habte Mariam said that the opening of the session is of great significance as it concicides with a dangerous stage in the history of Africa and with international political tension. He added that the enemies of peace and freedom have jeopardized international peace and stability. He went on to say that it is very important to guarantee the African Continent's independence and security.

Comrade Brig Gen Haile Giorgis added that southern Africa is still not free, that imperialist military bases have been established on the African Continent and its surrounding areas and that the racist and terrorist South African regime is persisting in making repeated raids on its neighbors. He said that an assessment of the situation shows that Africa's freedom is neither guaranteed nor secure.

Recalling that the issue of establishing an African defense force has been under consideration for approximately 20 years, Comrade Brig Gen Haile Giorgis said that socialist Ethiopia, in its capacity as chairman of the OAU Defense Commission and council of experts, has in the last 2 years done all in its power to bring about its formation.

He said international imperialism continues to help the racist and terrorist South African regime which, he said, has served to promote South Africa's oppression of the African peoples of South Africa and Namibia. He said that imperialist aggression in the area has increased and that imperialist military bases have expanded and proliferated.

Comrade Brig Gen Haile Giorgis said that these developments threaten the peace and security of the African Continent.

Concluding his speech, Comrade Brig Gen Haile Giorgis said that in view of these dangers the present session should work to achieve the establishment of the African defense force.

## ALGERIA

### COMMENTARY CRITICIZES U.S. SUPPORT OF MOROCCO

LD300848 Algiers APS in English 1156 GMT 29 Mar 81

[Text] Algiers, 29 Mar (APS)--The United States will not henceforth link its arms supplies to progress achieved by Rabat in the search of an issue [as received] to Western-Sahara conflict. This was outlined in a recent declaration of the U.S. deputy under-secretary of state for the Middle-East, Mr. Morris Draper, who also underlined the United States is "firmly convinced that its traditional friends such as Morocco, should benefit from an extra support".

This declaration which follows the decision already taken last January by President Ronald Reagan to supply Morocco with 108 tanks, 20 "F-5" jet fighters and [words indistinct] "OV-10" reconnaissance aircrafts, leads to serious preoccupations over the White House's new orientation in its policy on north-west Africa. It is all the more concerning that it corresponds to a recrudescence of aggressivity of the Moroccan monarchy, which recent destabilization attempt against Mauritania is no more than an episode, if we consider the current open threats of Rabat, and the violent inherent press campaign.

In this respect, the United States decision in favour of Rabat is an encouragement to aggression at the risk of setting ablaze the whole region. The United States, as a member of the U.N. Security Council, should work for peace and assume its heavy responsibility before history.

[Words indistinct] unbalance in the region, by [words indistinct] Morocco with sophisticated armaments, the Reagan government also contributes to delay any just solution to the Western Sahara conflict recognised as a decolonisation problem by the United Nations.

This attitude of "certain extra-African capitals" has been denounced on several occasions by Polisario which affirms that "pretend help Morocco for bringing it to negotiate is no more than a lie and a pretext to support its carries on its aggression and military escalation against the Saharan people and peoples of the region". [sentence as received]

If Mr. Draper's declaration today simplifies Washington's theory according to which it is important to "better arm to be in a better position to negotiate" (keeping on the first part of it).

It is obvious that U.S. leaders are transforming Morocco as Israel of the Maghreb (north of Africa) with all the necessary military and diplomatic support in its current and future aggressions.

The only way to achieve peace is to bring Morocco to the table of negotiations and as a traditional friend of Rabat, the United States could play a major role in this operation.

## LIBYA

### NUCLEAR PACT WITH USSR REPORTEDLY TO BE SIGNED

NC282140 Paris AFP in English 2130 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Paris, 28 Mar (AFP)--Libya's Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi is to sign an agreement with the Soviet Union on the installation of a nuclear research center in his country, the Arab-language AL-MUSTAQBAL weekly claimed today.

Quoting informed Arab sources, the newspaper said that Col al-Qadhdhafi would finalize the agreement during a forthcoming trip to the Soviet Union whose exact date had not yet been set.

According to Soviet sources, the weekly added, the principle of Soviet aid in the creation of such a center had been approved by the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee.

AL-MUSTAQBAL added that Col al-Qadhdhafi received an invitation to visit Moscow on March 18.

## MAURITANIA

### BNEIJARA MESSAGE REPLIES TO MOROCCAN ACCUSATIONS

LD290838 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text of undated "reply message" sent by Prime Minister Sid Ahmed Ould Bneijara to Moroccan Prime Minister and Minister of Justice Maati Bouabid]

[Text] Mr Prime Minister, I reviewed before his majesty during the At-Ta'if conference, in the presence of His Excellency President Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea, all the efforts made in vain by the Military Committee for National Salvation and the government of Mauritania since 10 July 1978 in order to continue relations with Morocco or, rather, to straighten them out or at least make them natural, relying on fraternal cooperation, mutual recognition and respect of differences in views and foreign policy attitudes, especially in relation to the Western Sahara problem. I reviewed for his majesty the history of Morocco's flagrant and repeated interference in our internal affairs since 10 July 1978 and the attempts to create constant disturbances which Morocco has never ceased to initiate and organize against our country. On the same occasion I explained to his majesty, in the presence of President Sekou Toure and in the light of the military map, the stupid and mythical nature of the accusations which Morocco has never ceased to level against Mauritania--accusations of opening the road to Polisario forces to attack Morocco in its recognized international borders and in the Western Sahara. I explained to him and to President Sekou Toure the vast distance separating places in southern Morocco such as (?Abha), Abatiyah, Tan-tan and the borders of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania; and the extent of the distance of the wide battlefields in [words indistinct], Al-'Uyun, Bu Craa, [word indistinct] and other battlefields; between Moroccan and Polisario forces and the borders of Mauritania; and the existence of these positions in the extreme north and northwest of Western Sahara, and that it was unreasonable militarily and in view of the requirements of [words indistinct], for the Polisario forces to head to the south first and then cross Western Sahara only to stop in Mauritania and return through the same road, crossing the thousands of kilometers which separate the battlefields and the borders of Mauritania.

Thus I acquainted his majesty and President Sekou Toure with the extent of the feeling of the whole Mauritanian people (?about) harming its national pride and [words indistinct] when it hears the flood of hollow insults showered on it by Morocco. I confirmed to his majesty and to President Sekou Toure the attitude of Mauritania, which we never ceased to repeat:

First, concerning bilateral relations with Morocco which are characterized by our sincere desire for the continuation of relations of cooperation, mutual respect and noninterference in internal affairs--on the condition that Morocco puts an end to its interference in our internal affairs and stops its cooperation with elements hostile to our regime. At the time I did not think that Morocco was planning to involve those elements in the 16 March aggressive operation.

Second, concerning the Western Sahara problem, I (?stated) my country's open attitude and confirmed that it is the one of which our country informed the United Nations, the OAU, the Arab League and the Nonaligned Movement. This attitude includes recognition of the Polisario Front as the sole legitimate representative of the Saharan people and recognition of this people's right to self-determination in accordance with the resolution of the OAU Committee of Wise Men and resolutions of the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement.

It also includes the neutrality of Mauritania which [word indistinct] the two previous points, as Mauritania looks forward to becoming the element of harmony and equilibrium which can, through its relations with the Polisario and Morocco, play the role (?expected) of it at the proper time, in search for a negotiated solution stemming from the declared attitude.

Finally, I told his majesty that our national soil has never been used and will never be used as a base by the Polisario forces or the Moroccan forces and that our armed forces will not cross our internationally recognized borders, which you and the Polisario also recognize. At the same time, it will defend our borders to the end and by all means against any violation from any source.

This is the reality that cannot be denied. But the Moroccan Government regrettably continued its intransigence and accusations against Mauritania. The intransigence was displayed in the 16 March aggression and an extensive campaign to cover up this criminal aggression which African, Arab and international public opinion [words indistinct] which confirm it beyond any doubt. And [words indistinct] I also record that the attack on Guelta Zemmur is a new opportunity which you are using to [word indistinct] aggressive campaign which Morocco has unilaterally decided to launch against Mauritania and for which it alone shoulders responsibility, irrespective of whether this was, in its first stage, represented by the 16 March aggression, or further aggressive stages. Yet my government is ready to give African, Arab and international observers the chance to visit our northern borders, to notice the [word indistinct] nature of the accusations you are making against our country. Moroccan, Mauritanian, African, Arab and international public opinion is aware today of the facts around the events that took place and it has become clear to all that Morocco is trying unilaterally to give new direction to the Western Sahara problem by again involving Mauritania through using the right of pursuit against our country, which was declared in 1976 [words indistinct] and used unjustly against civilian installations in Boulanour in 1980.

Responsibility for the internationalization of the Western Sahara problem, despite the OAU and UN resolutions, through the waging of an unjustified aggression against our country, is fraught with many serious dangers and I hope that in good time you will appreciate their repercussions and implications not only for our two peoples and countries but also for the whole Arab Maghreb and west Africa.

In any event, the will of Mauritania [words indistinct] democratic institutions for social progress, independence and nonalignment, in accordance with the 10 July program and in climate of peace, [word indistinct] and stability, this will is matched only by our determination to defeat any aggression against our territorial sovereignty, independence and the sanctity of our land. Accept, Mr Prime Minister, our appreciation.

## MOROCCO

### L'OPINION REPORTS LIBYAN TROOPS SENT TO MAURITANIA

NC311100 Paris AFP in English 1049 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Rabat, March 31 (AFP)--Libya has sent a unit of troops to Mauritania with sophisticated weapons, the Moroccan daily L'OPINION reported today in a front page splash story.

The newspaper said that Libyan tanks despatched to Tindouf in Algeria were probably heading for Mauritania as well.

"Mauritania is becoming one big military base, with arms, mercenaries, advisers and instructors arriving almost daily, turning it into a launching point for attacks on Morocco to begin with, and later against other African states," L'OPINION said.

In a separate report the newspaper said that contrary to statements by the Tripoli authorities Libyan troops had not been withdrawn from Chad but replaced by "black Libyan soldiers for better relations with the Chadian Army."

## SUDAN

### NUMAYRI CABLES MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO REAGAN

JN311120 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] Khartoum, 31 Mar (SUNA)--President Numayri has sent the following cable to U.S. President Reagan:

Your Excellency President Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America
The White House, Washington:

We have received the report about the shooting incident in which you were hit by a treacherous bullet with extreme anxiety and deep regret. Since hearing the report we have been following all statements and developments, hoping for your safety and wishing you a speedy recovery and return to run the U.S. administration in good health, strengthened by the American people's confidence and that of their friends throughout the world. At the same time, we condemn any rash motives behind this incident, which we are confident you will overcome to continue your march in the service of freedom, justice and peace.

Mr President, in my own name and on behalf of the Sudanese people and government I ask God to grant you a speedy recovery and I extend to you sincere wishes for success in carrying out your great tasks. Please accept my appreciation and best wishes.

[Signed] Muhammad Ja'far Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan
The People's Palace, Khartoum
Tuesday, 31 March 1981

### NUMAYRI INTERVIEWED ON LIBYA, EGYPT, RECENT EVENTS

LD271447 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 27 Mar 81 pp 25-28

[Interview granted by President Ja'far Numayri to Nash'at at-Taghlabi in Khartoum on 12 March]

[Excerpts] AL-HAWADITH: Mr President, recently there has been much talk about the so-called "Libyan danger on the Sudanese borders." My question deals with two matters: Does this danger actually exist and, if it does exist, is it a great danger or is it being exaggerated? In other words, how does Your Excellency view this subject:

President Numayri: We know Libya and the Libyan leadership very well. We also know its abilities in political leadership and military leadership. Therefore, we would see no danger in either Libya or its leadership if the matter concerned them alone, but we see danger in the fact that the Libyan leadership has become subject to a greater strategy--much greater than the capabilities of this leadership and with long-term objectives in Africa.

They--that is the big strategies--want to subjugate Africa and its potential. When I say Africa and its potential I mean economic and manpower potential. We believe that the great majority of Nile Valley inhabitants, the Sudanese and the Egyptians, represent the real power that any strategy seeking to achieve its objectives in Africa must take into account. Why? Because it is historically known that the most ancient cultures, if not the first cultures, appeared in this valley; they were advanced and progressive cultures while the world was living the era of the first man, if the term applies here.

This manpower represented in the inhabitants of Sudan and Egypt has the ability to move at various levels--be it the Third World level, the Second World level, or the advanced world level. In other words, it is capable of creating its own major status among these countries. For example, the second world still has its say throughout the globe: Anyone who talks about the Arab and Islamic world must take the Egyptian and Sudanese people into account, and anyone who talks about the Arab world must also take into account Egypt and Sudan. In Africa, too, Egypt and Sudan must be taken into consideration. Therefore, when we say that there is a danger to Sudan we mean that the big strategies are the source of danger, not the Libyan leadership or the Libyan people.

Unfortunately, the Libyan leadership is only an executor of a big strategy which, in our opinion, is aimed at subjugating the Nile Valley inhabitants, regardless of whether the number one objective of this strategy is Sudan or another Nile Valley state. The other danger is that this big strategy is using Libya's oil and money potential. I can even say that the United States is benefitting from Libyan oil and does not want a situation different to the existing one, which is serving its interests, and the Soviet Union is benefitting from the dollars that come from the United States and from trade transactions and arms exports. In addition, through arms exports it can also export its own ideology and can activate the trade of the other countries that revolve in its orbit. The least it can do in this field is to export trained cadres from Russia and the socialist bloc.

Another danger yet is the fact that any external move through Libya would be the beginning of a return to the era of colonialism, which we have finished with, whether old colonialism or neocolonialism. That is, a return to subjugation and control for the African countries by one means or another.

If we go back into the history of Africa we find that colonialism often exploits some weak countries in order to achieve its ambitions. A simple and clear example is that when Britain was the most colonialist state in Africa the British used to exploit some countries like India, which was in a similar situation to Africa, and create a special class there. In fact, colonialism in Sudan exploited the "Damascene," that is the Lebanese and the Syrians. They used to bring them in under the pretext of education because they spoke Arabic, and through them they won the people's friendship and trust. In the meantime, these people might not know that they were being exploited but there is no doubt that the British took advantage of them to consolidate their colonialism. This is what I mean by creating a class linked to colonialism; such a class makes its living while colonialism achieves its interests through it.

I can say that such exploitation takes place in many other countries, such as the west African coast and other places. The more important danger of which I would like to remind the Libyan leadership in particular is the reaction to the occupation of Chad. This reaction goes back to an old idea which was current in Africa. The Arabs are the world's basest peoples because they imposed slavery on the Africans and are imposing Islam on them.

In fact, this is not true. In the past there was a trade in the world known as the slave trade. Some of the Arabs and others, by virtue of their contacts, used to supply laborers to the highest bidder. Instead of manpower being hired as it is now it used to be sold. But who used to buy it? It was the major European and American companies that used to buy, and yet the blame was put entirely on the Arabs and Muslims.

Now the tune of accusing the Arabs and the Muslims will start again. This is evident in the fact that the majority of the African countries rose to oppose the Libyan occupation of Chad and several meetings were held for this purpose outside the OAU. Had Libya not moved swiftly and paid out much money here and there the opposition would have been far more serious. But can Libya continue to buy the African countries' silence forever? Impossible.

AL-HAWADITH: What I understand from you is that the United States puts its oil interest above its interest in preventing the spread of an ideology hostile to it in Africa, which is the reason for its negative stand toward the Libyan intervention in Chad.

President Numayri: That might not be quite so. In fact, I believe that Libya is one of the countries that embodies detente between the United States and the Soviet Union. Clearly there are no problems between the Americans and the Soviets in Libya. Both are benefitting; the Americans take oil and pay in dollars and the Soviets take dollars and bring arms. But they also bring other things with arms. Therefore, there is a certain understanding or some kind of detente between the two sides. Libya might be one of the countries that might have been included in the secret agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States. Maybe what happened in Chad was supposed to have happened in other parts of the world were it not for the apparent fact that the formula was not sound or that it followed a course that was not charted for it, especially in the Middle East.

Therefore, a division occurred and the Soviets went on winning a number of Arab countries and the Americans went on winning other Arab countries. A new kind of cold war or silent war then began. But there is no doubt that there was detente and this detente included Libya in particular. Libya's move into Chad might have disturbed the principles of the detente agreement between the Russians and the Americans. I have learned that the Soviets, despite the aid they give to Libya, were not pleased with the Libyan intervention in Chad.

AL-HAWADITH: From a military aspect, the situation on the Libyan-Sudanese borders is undebatable. But the question is: Can Libya, either directly or through Sudanese elements collaborating with it, carry out actions that threaten Sudan's internal security?

President Numayri: Frankly, as long as Libya has arms and money it might be able to buy over certain people. This does not happen in Sudan alone. Many other peoples are not free of agents who are willing to sell their conscience. Even the Soviets and the Americans are no exception. Obviously, Sudan is not known for being an agent for foreigners on a large scale, and there is no doubt that the Sudanese people strongly resist any attempt of this sort. There are some businessmen who are sometimes lured into being agents.

For example, it is a known fact that Ash-Sharif al-Hindi is an arms merchant and has nothing to do with politics. He is well spoken. One of the parties used him and he was able to reach the position of finance minister. But this finance minister stole all the treasury's money and even the loans that Sudan obtained. Ash-Sharif put this money in his account abroad. It is no secret that when he launched the revolution in 1969 Sudan's finances were zero. So, in fact, Ash-Sharif al-Hindi loves money and the proof of this is that Libya bought him twice or three times. He then sold himself to two Eastern countries successively. And every time he sold himself to one country he would hurl abuse at the country he had served earlier. People like him can be bought any time to carry out any mission.

Recently there have been buying operations on a large scale, whether or not Sudanese or others are concerned. Even when our relations with Libya were good buying operations were continuing. They are now common in Europe.

President Numayri: That cell has no connection with the border situation; it is an extension of the Communist Party, which was said to be the best organized Communist Party in the Middle East. The cell was what remained of that party; it called for the same ideas that the old party called for. It has unfortunately been proved that certain socialist countries had close and intimate relations with it. The objective was to hinder the progress of revolution in Sudan.

In fact, there was instigation to civilian mutiny. This is a method which has been rendered obsolete. It was tried during the military rule and the October revolution and was partially successful. But its success was due to the alliance and to the armed forces. Without the armed forces it would not have succeeded in the least.

Members of the cell who were arrested had been wanted by the authorities since the 1971 movement. They disappeared for some time but later reappeared. But there are certain leaders who have absconded and I believe that they are outside Sudan or that they have been able to flee since the cell was discovered.

AL-HAWADITH: Did you initiate talks with Egypt to coordinate action to deal with such serious incidents, which affect the security of both countries?

President Numayri: We of course have strong, close and historical relations with Egypt. We work together to confront any dangers threatening us. In fact, as soon as we felt that there was a danger threatening Egypt and Sudan we renewed the joint defense pact which was originally concluded among the Arab countries. All we did was to strengthen and consolidate this agreement. On the other hand, we agreed to work and to act in the various fields, to exchange information and views and to draw up the necessary plans.

AL-HAWADITH: In one of its free limited-circulation editions, the newspaper MAY, organ of the ruling Egyptian National Democratic Party, asked Sudan to reinstate the Sudanese ambassador in Cairo. The paper said that Egypt is prepared to reciprocate by reinstating its ambassador in Khartoum without blaming for what had happened, and that this only applies to Sudan, to the exclusion of the rest of the Arab states, with whom the restoration of relations must be reviewed. What is your opinion of this request?

President Numayri: I believe that this request from Egypt was expected and it would have been surprising if it had not been made. We will not be satisfied just to study the matter but will soon take a very positive step in this direction. That is to say, we will reinstate our ambassador in Cairo. Pending this, the minister of state for foreign affairs has sent a senior Foreign Ministry official to Cairo to work there until the necessary measures are taken.

The fact is that our relationship with Egypt has always been strong. We have always seen to it that the post of ambassador in Cairo is occupied by the most prominent ambassador we have. The minister of state for foreign affairs has himself been ambassador in Cairo and with the same rank. When I recalled him I was glad to have him in Khartoum because he is competent. We are now looking for a competent man who is capable of preserving the eternal relations between the two countries without letting them be affected by politics. In other words, we do not want to have a political ambassador in Cairo. We want an ambassador who can maintain normal relations. We believe that this is an important step.

After taking this step, we will appeal to our Arab brothers to reconsider the attitude they have adopted toward Egypt, because no matter what, we cannot deny the fact that Egypt is an important part of the Arab nation and the Islamic nation--a useful part and a significant base. We, as Muslims, must follow the teachings of our religion, which orders us to support one another and to be good to each other always. I believe that a sound dialogue will surely eliminate many disagreements and indeed all disagreements. For this reason I appeal to all the Arabs to now consider restoring their relations with Egypt in the interests of the Arab nation, particularly at a time when policy has begun to change and take a different course.

AL-HAWADITH: Allow me to ask you to explain an important matter: Supposing a Sudanese ambassador is reinstated in Cairo--be he a political ambassador or an ambassador of fraternity, affection and historical relations--what will the position of this ambassador be if, on an official occasion, he finds himself face to face with the Israeli ambassador to Egypt?

President Nymayri: Naturally, we have not recognized and will not recognize Israel. It goes without saying that the Sudanese ambassador will not attend any occasion to which the Israeli ambassador is invited, nor will he invite the Israeli ambassador to any reception he holds.

AL-HAWADITH: And should the occasion be at the invitation of the Egyptian Government and attended by all the ambassadors including the Israeli ambassador?

President Numayri: In this case our ambassador will behave in the same diplomatic way we behave at the United Nations. Do not forget that numerous meetings have taken place between Arabs and Israelis at various levels. The important thing is that we will not address an invitation to the Israeli ambassador in Cairo, nor will we accept any invitation by him. In Egypt, Sudan's relationship is only with the Egyptian Government. In any case, these are formalities which are governed by the rules of protocol.

AL-HAWADITH: Your book "The Islamic Course, Why?" has caused many controversies and there has been some confusion as to the call itself. Have you, Your Excellency, advocated religious values or called for the application of Islamic laws?

President Nymayri: We advocate the Islamic values on which Islamic society is built. When we achieve this objective, we will have accomplished a big step. For example, I, as a Muslim, have specific values such as justice, beneficence and others. If I believe in these values and in the stipulations of the holy Koran I do not need a canonical law to make me abide by what I have already committed myself to. By virtue of this fact, I would naturally not commit an act that would necessitate the application of the law against me.

Let us take what has happened in Iran as an example. The Islamic constitution there was not in keeping with Islamic canonical law. I, as a Muslim, cannot abide by it because it only bears the name of Islam and nothing else. It would be more correct to say that it is a family constitution.

The important thing is that we should read the Koran well and understand it well. If we do so, we would discover many values which build the Islamic society on sound and correct bases without any need for new laws. Let us take Tunisia, Egypt and Sudan as examples. In Tunisia, a civil law has been promulgated, whereas in Sudan no such law has been made. We are committed to the Islamic customary law and values. I believe that in this respect we are more successful than Egypt and Tunisia.

It is known that a canonical law judge always refers to the Koran and the imam's interpretations and then passes judgment on the basis of his convictions. I would like to say here that the Islamic canonical law has been exploited in certain circumstances for the attainment of objectives that have nothing to do with its provisions. It often happens that when the subject of Islamic canonical law is raised many questions are asked as to whether this law means cutting off the hands of thieves and stoning adulteresses to death.

Under positive law the penalty begins with a simple fine and progresses to hanging the criminal. Some people, however, view this law as providing only for the penalty of hanging just like those who think that Islamic canonical law provides only for cutting off the hand of the thief, stoning the adulteress and decapitating the criminal. One must bear in mind that, in Islam, many rules govern the crime of stealing and just trials take place. For this reason, I say that complete belief in an Islamic society and in the values of this society is the basic and most important thing.

AL-HAWADITH: Mr President, there have been differing views on the real reason which led to the measure which Sudan has taken against the PLO representative in Khartoum. Can you tell us what the real reason was?

President Numayri: I can tell you now what the real reason was. The reason is multi-faceted, but the decisive element was the time factor. Sudan was preparing to host many conferences, some of which were to be attended by the Arab finance ministers to discuss the question of the Islamic bank. We received several reports saying that kidnap operations were being planned. This possibility prompted us not to take any risks.

Meanwhile, PLO Representative Abu Haytham had adopted stands conflicting with the PLO's aims. Recently and before the conferences were held Abu Haytham was joined by three other persons against whom all official reports had warned. When we were asked to let Abu Haytham go and to let the other three stay, we said: No. All of them must go. Of course, this measure was upsetting for us but we were compelled to take it. In the past, we did not pay much attention to the attcks on our regime and revolution, but when our security is facing a certain situation we have to confront this situation with the necessary measures.

As to what has been said about the playing of an Israeli song or tune is completely untrue. The reception at which the Israeli tune was said to have been played was held at the Syrian club in Khartoum and the band was a Syrian band. The occasion was a new year dancing party. Is it logical that a Syrian band would play an Israeli tune? Why should it play such a tune at a party where only dance music was played? Was an Israeli dance tune played by mistake among the other tunes played? I do not know, because I am not an expert in dance tunes or Israeli tunes.

AL-HAWADITH: What has happened does not affect relations between Sudan and the PLO, of course?

President Numayri: Absolutely not, and we have said so clearly. However, we must not forget the efforts Sudan has made to open most, if not all, PLO officers in the African states.

MIRGHANI VIEWS EGYPTIAN RELATIONS, LIBYAN THREAT

JN281857 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1803 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Mar (SUNA)--Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, Sudanese minister of state for foreign affairs, has commented on the Arab League's call on the Arab states to adhere to the goals of Arab solidarity in dealing with the bilateral disputes which threaten the unity and stability of the Arab nation.

In a statement to SUNA, he explained that, appreciating the noble motives which led the Arab League to call for solidarity and in commitment to the inevitability of Arab solidarity and to the principles of our firm policy, we still maintain that the only way to achieve Arab solidarity and establish it on firm and strong bases is for the Arab League to adopt effective and practical measures to heal the roots of the bilateral problems that are weakening the Arab nation, instead of resorting to palliatives and temporary solutions that do no good because they deal superficially with Arab problems and differences and ignore the core.

Based on the aforementioned, Sudan holds to its position calling for dispatching an Arab League team to Sudan and to Libya to see with their own eyes where foreign bases and facilities are located.

Mirghani said that for several days Libya has been contacting some Arab states in a bid to convince them to sever relations with Sudan because it accepted the naming of ambassadors in Sudan and Egypt.

He stressed that we in Sudan need to speak about our firm and declared stands on supporting and backing the Palestinian issue and what we have provided for it because this is the duty of the entire Arab nation, which considers the Palestinian issue its pan-Arab and central cause. It is enough to point out that Sudan participated with the noble blood of its sons shed on all the battlefields of the war between the Arabs and Israel. Sudan will continue to do so until the occupied Arab lands are liberated and the legitimate national rights of the struggling Palestinian people are achieved.

As for relations with Egypt, Mirghani explained that Sudan did not sever its relations with Egypt and that the Sudanese stand was clear and frank at the Baghdad summit because the relations between Sudan and Egypt are fateful and immortal. He said that behind its campaign against Sudan, Libya harbors its real intentions to threaten Sudan's peace and security by means of its military intervention in Chad.

He said that Libya has opened training camps for some Sudanese citizens and Africans for use in its aggressive plans against Sudan. He added that Libya has built military airports a few miles from the Sudanese western border, which confirms that the threat represented by Chad is basically aimed at Egypt's and Sudan's peace and security.

## TUNISIA

### PRESIDENT SENDS MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY TO REAGAN

LD302358 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] President Bourguiba has addressed the following cable of sympathy to U.S. President Ronald Reagan:

I have learned with deep sorrow and regret the news of the treacherous attack on your person, and through you on the friendly American people. While I express to you my warmest feelings of sympathy and those of the Tunisian Government and people, I implore God to give you help in this tribulation and to grant you speedy recovery and long life, so as to continue the noble mission with which the American nation has entrusted you.

Mrs Bourguiba has sent a similar cable to Mrs Reagan.

## KENYA

### PRESIDENT MOI WISHES REAGAN SPEEDY RECOVERY

LD311206 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 31 Mar 81 EA

[Excerpt] President Daniel Arap Moi was among world leaders who expressed shock and horror at the news that President Ronald Reagan of the United States has been wounded in an assassination attempt and conveyed their concern and wishes for a speedy recovery. In his message, President Moi said he was dismayed to learn of the attempted assassination and wished President Reagan Godspeed in recovering from the wound inflicted by the would-be assassin. President Moi prayed that God may grant mankind the wisdom to preach love instead of hate. President Moi concluded: We all pray for you, your government and the American people in this hour of grief.

## SOMALIA

### GHALI DELIVERS AS-SADAT MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT

LD291020 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 28 Mar 81 EA

[Excerpt] The Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party secretary general and Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] president, Challe Muhammad Siad Barre, received a message last night from the president of Egypt, Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat. The message, which was delivered to the president of the SDR, Challe said, by the visiting Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali, discussed strengthening of the sisterly relationship between the two countries, Somalia and Egypt, and the current general situation in the world at large.

The minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali, and his delegation, who left Mogadishu airport this morning, told reporters at the airport that while in the SDR he had held cordial talks with Somali officials on bilateral relations, cooperation and strengthening ties between the two governments, and on other matters concerning the unity of the African nations and respect for the principles and Charter of the OAU. Dr Butrus Ghali added that Somali and Egypt are two independent African states that are members of the OAU and have identical views on waging a united war against colonialism and those interfering in the internal affairs of the African countries.

He added that both countries believe in extending unswerving support to those who are struggling for their self-determination and independence.

## TANZANIA

### ANC CRITICIZES RSA FOR COLLABORATING WITH U.S.

LD271544 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 27 Mar 81 EA

[Text] Dar es Salaam--The ANC has criticized the racist South African regime for collaborating with the new U.S. administration with the intention of promoting colonialism against newly independent African states, particularly those in southern Africa. A statement issued in Dar es Salaam yesterday by the ANC said that the Reagan administration has recently expressed its intention to conspire with the racist South African regime and the traitorous parties of UNITA and the Angolan National Liberation Front in Angola. The ANC issued the statement to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the repulsion of racist South African forces from Angola. The ANC also warned that provocations and all other enemy plots will never weaken the liberation struggles of the people of South Africa and Namibia under the leadership of their parties, ANC and SWAPO.

## CAPE VERDE

### FOREIGN MINISTER SPEAKS AGAINST DEFENSE PACT

AB290915 Paris AFP in French 1421 GMT 28 Mar 81

[Text] Praia, 28 Mar (AFP)--The military pact carries seeds of profound contradiction with it and we think will probably be premature to continue along this line. The Cape Verdian minister of foreign affairs, Mr Silvino da Luz, stated this in Praia on his return from the Lome conference on the creation of the defense pact for the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS.

We explained the reasons for our internal policy and the philosophy of our external policy and we noted the practical difficulties, Mr da Luz stated. The Cape Verdian minister added that in Lome he noticed a general understanding of the position of Cape Verde, saying: The small countries which have clear political principles to defend are the countries which should be respected.

## GHANA

### TUC THREATENS WARNING STRIKE OVER LIVING COSTS

AB271410 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Text] The Trades Union Congress, TUC, has threatened to call for a 48-hour warning strike with effect from the 14th of next month if by the 13th the government has not taken effective measures to bring down the high cost of living in the country. Announcing this at a news conference in Accra today, the secretary general of the TUC, Alhaji Issifu, said the present high cost of living is intolerable. It will be recalled that earlier this month the TUC called on the government to institute immediate and effective measures to alleviate the state of wretchedness among workers and the general public and warned that if these failed it would itself take the most effective action to [words indistinct] of Ghanaian workers. Alhaji Issifu said the 48-hour warning strike is in fulfillment of this warning.

The secretary general said at an emergency meeting of the executive board of the TUC yesterday, the board put forward certain conditions to be met by the government by the 13th of next month. These include the full implementation of the 12 cedi minimum wage based on a tripartite committee (?reccommendation) and the supply of the 15 selected commodities considered basic to the requirements of the people to be restricted to workers cooperatives. These goods should also be sold to farmers through their organizations and institutions such as schools, hospitals, the police and the armed forces.

According to the TUC board, this will drastically reduce the number of consumers who will depend on the open market for goods. The TUC called for the dissolution of the prices and incomes board to be replaced by a high-powered prices and general incomes stabilization commission with an effective representation of organized labor. It also asked the government to abolish completely the chit system of distribution and distribution by regional ministers. The government, it added, should rather increase the allocation of goods to the consumer wholesale unit.

## GUINEA-BISSAU

### FLING BUREAU DENIES STATEMENT ON DISSOLUTION

AB301900 Paris AFP in French 1723 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Excerpt] Dakar, 30 Mar (AFP)--The Bureau of the Front for the Struggle for Guinea-Bissau Independence [FLING] Monday denied the allegations made on 10 March 1981 in the Senegalese capital by its president, Mr Cirilio Rodrigues Doliveira, who announced that the movement had embarked on a process of self-dissolution. In a communique handed to the press in Dakar, FLING points out that it has never made a decision to end its existence. It also denies that Mr Doliveira has the power to decide the fate of the movement. The communique states that at present, dissolving FLING is out of the question and that dissolution will only be possible when the ruling African Independence Party of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde [PAIGC] and FLING have achieved an identity of views in the political sphere. The FLING bureau pledges its willingness to contribute its advice to the PAIGC leaders and to launch fund-raising campaigns in order to send essential commodities to Bissau. The process of self-dissolution announced by Mr Doliveira had already been rejected by a select committee of leaders in Paris, whose president, Mr Francois Kankoila Mendy, declared the decision on the dissolution null and void.

## SENEGAL

### MARXIST-LENIST PARTY TO SEEK RECOGNITION

AB271442 Paris AFP in French 1142 GMT 27 Mar 81

[Text] Dakar, 27 Mar (AFP)--The clandestine Marxist-Leninist organization And-jef (a Wolof word meaning to unite for a purpose) has decided to work for recognition as a legal party in Senegal under the name of Revolutionary Movement for a New Democracy (MRDN). Many of the organization's militants have been arrested, tried and sentenced to various prison terms but were later granted amnesty. This information is contained in a statement issued by this organization's provisional working committee and submitted to the press in Dakar on Friday. Some members of the group have stated that letters have already been sent to the Interior Ministry and the Supreme Court.

This decision by the And-jef's authorities to seek a legal status comes at a time when the political organizations are waiting for the expansion of the present four-party system through the recognition of other political parties (only four parties--socialist, conservative, liberal and Marxist--are now operating legally in Senegal). The provisional working committee formed by And-jef comprises nine members headed by statistician Landing Savane, who is in charge of the opposition Dakar newspaper JAAY DOOLE BI (THE PROLETARIAN). Through the action of the party it proposes to establish, And-jef wants to create a new type of democracy in Senegal and an independent national economy serving the people, to ensure the social well-being of the masses, to develop a national, popular and scientific culture and to implement a policy of independence and sovereignty. Very well organized until the arrest of its leaders in 1975, And-jef was able to hinder police infiltration of its ranks. Up until now, And-jef has been hostile to the African Independence Party (PAI)--the legal Marxist party--as well as to the illegal African Independence Party, which is close to the Soviet Communist Party. According to its members, And-jef, which comprises mostly Maoists and supporters of the Red Khmers, now wants to become a melting pot not only for the Marxists who still have influence within it but also for other forces (patriots, democrats, peasants, and workers whose basic principle is a policy of self-reliance).

## ANGOLA

### PAULO JORGE WARNS AGAINST U.S. AID TO UNITA

AB301101 Paris AFP in English 0931 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Luanda, 30 Mar (AFP)--Angolan Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge says the socialist camp and the Non-aligned Movement would come to Luanda's aid if the United States began helping anti-government rebels who operate in southern Angola.

Mr. Jorge, at a news conference with foreign reporters in Luanda yesterday, also indicated, in response to a question, that Angola would consider calling in additional Cuban troops if necessary.

The presence of several thousand Cuban soldiers in Angola has led the Reagan administration in Washington to ask Congress to repeal the 1976 law barring U.S. aid to the UNITA rebels of Jonas Savimbi. UNITA, the Union for the Total Independence of Angola, reportedly is supplied by South Africa through Namibia.

If the Reagan administration intends to carry out a policy of hostility and aggression against Angola, the Angolan Government has the right to call on any friendly country for help, Mr. Jorge said. If we are attacked, it is to be expected that we would defend ourselves.

The foreign minister said he was certain that if the United States were to decide to help UNITA, all of Africa as well as the non-aligned states and the countries of the socialist camp would be at Angola's side. Cuba is current chairman of the Non-aligned Movement.

At the same time, however, Mr. Jorge said Angola was open to closer economic relations with Western industrial states, saying that to develop, Angola must turn to the countries with the most advanced technology.

Angola has criticized the planned visit of Mr. Savimbi to the United States--a visit that, according to sources in Washington, the State Department has now advised Mr. Savimbi to put off, apparently as part of the Reagan administration's attempt to ward off a crisis with black Africa over U.S. policy toward Angola and South Africa.

By inviting these Savimbist jokers who represent no one, the U.S. Government is covering itself with ridicule, the official JORNAL DE ANGOLA newspaper wrote.

Mr. Jorge also spoke on the South African incursions into southern Angola, which Pretoria claims are aimed exclusively at camps of Namibian nationalist guerrillas who are fighting to end South African administration of that territory on Angola's southern frontier. The foreign minister said the South Africans had stepped up their reconnaissance flights over Angola and had increased military incursions by land and by air. The last announced South African raid, on Lubango, 300 kms (190 miles) into Angola, came March 1979.

Mr. Jorge said the South Africans were trying both to destroy Angolan economic installations and to develop discontent among the people in the vain hope of changing the policy of (our) government toward SWAPO, the guerrilla South-West Africa People's Organization of Namibia.

### ALGERIAN PRESIDENT BENDJEDID PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT

AB300851 Paris AFP in English 0707 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] Luanda, 30 Mar (AFP)--Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid arrived in Angola yesterday for an official two-day visit, part of an African tour.

He was welcomed by Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and a large crowd when he flew into Luanda from Bamako, Mali. The Algerian leader is also to visit Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Madagascar, Seychelles, Tanzania, Congo, Nigeria and Niger.

Banquet Speeches

LD301000 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0000 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Excerpts] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN, is continuing his African tour. At a banquet given in his honor by Angolan President Jose dos Santos, President Chadli Bendjedid made a speech in which he expressed thanks for the warm welcome he was given in the People's Republic of Angola. He praised the role of late Angolan President Agostinho Neto. The president of the republic said that our presence on the soil of the People's Republic of Angola--a land of heroism which acts as a powerful example for the independence struggles of the other fraternal peoples in southern Africa--is a true expression of the feeling of solidarity, friendship and fraternity which link the Algerian and Angolan peoples.

The president said: We realize here in southern Africa, more than anywhere else, that our continent is going through a decisive stage of its history characterized by colonialist domination, imperialist and racist aggression and the intervention of foreign forces against the liberation struggle of the peoples and by the extensive looting of the latter's resources. But this stage is also characterized by the firm resistance of the African peoples and their rejection of submission and surrender. These are the elements that guarantee final victory.

The brother president added: In this crucial stage particularly the People's Republic of Angola, the confrontation states, have proven that despite the various pressures and the repeated (?aggression) against them, they have the determination and dignity to persevere. Algeria is pleased to reiterate its salute to them. As long as all Africa is aware of the racist regime that rules in Pretoria and of the threats and challenges of that regime which go beyond the borders of this area, African solidarity will remain complete. But we must also ask the international community to apply the necessary pressures to make South Africa submit to the resolutions of the UN Security Council and find a quick solution to the Namibia problem. We must also denounce the aid given by some Western powers to the Pretoria racist regime, and by doing so help to prevent that regime from delaying the approach of the hour of truth at which the Namibian people will attain freedom and independence. The president of the republic expressed Algeria's solidarity with the struggle of the Namibian people to achieve freedom and independence.

Angolan President Jose dos Santos made a speech at the beginning of which he renewed his welcome to President Chadli Bendjedid and the accompanying delegation. At the same time he noted the numerous and deep-rooted relations linking the Algerian and Angolan peoples. The Angolan president affirmed that if armed struggle for national liberation was a nucleus of cooperation yesterday then the nature of our enemy today is the basic element around which to build unity of action for forming societies free of the exploitation of man by his fellow man and for guaranteeing complete liberation for our African continent. He noted that the fighters of the MPLA had received military training in the ranks of the FLN fighters and that the first armored vehicles which Angola received in 1975 were from Algeria.

The Angolan president also affirmed his country's unconditional support for the Polisario struggle against the Moroccan invasion, which is backed by the imperialist powers and which has violated the resolutions and provisions of the OAU and the UN organizations.

Concerning the international situation, President Jose dos Santos said: We are witnessing on the African Continent a series of maneuvers, such as the spreading of strategic military bases, the implementation of conspiracies and direct armed aggression, which aim to prevent the process of liquidating colonialism from the continent and to preclude progressive transformations from taking place on our continent.

President dos Santos added that at a time when efforts are being made by the OAU and the international community to liquidate colonialism for good, the Moroccan expansionist regime is engaging in an oppressive war, and that the recent aggressive attempt against Mauritania shows that the Moroccan regime is trying to destabilize the entire area.

The Angolan president saluted SWAPO, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people and which is waging a heroic struggle against the racist regime. In conclusion, Angolan President Jose dos Santos noted the development of relations between Algeria and Angola.

Communique Signed

LD310150 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 30 Mar 81

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid ended his visit to the People's Republic of Angola this morning. The visit culminated in a final communique signed by the two sides.

The Angolan side briefed the Algerian side on the situation in the south and on the measures taken by the MPLA, the MPLA-Labor Party and the government to face the aggression of the racist South African regime, which is using Namibia, which it occupied illegally, as a base. The Angolan side also briefed the Algerian side on the resolutions of the emergency conference of the MPLA and on the efforts being made to restart national construction and to lay the material foundations for the building of socialism.

President Chandli Bendjedid strongly condemned the repeated aggression of the South African racists against peaceful citizens and against the sovereignty of the People's Republic of Angola. He emphasized the solidarity of the Algerian people, the FLN and the Algerian Government with the Angolan people, their popular movement and the Angolan Governments efforts to confront South African aggression and to build a new socialist society.

The two sides expressed their concern over the tension caused by the constant [word indistinct] with the right of peoples to liberty, peace and progress. They expressed concern over the fact that imperialism and its allies continue to pursue a policy of pressure and interference in the internal affairs of others. Such policies aim at undermining stability. They include the use of mercenaires and seek to maintain pockets of tension and to set up military bases.

Regarding the problem of the Western Sahara, the two sides noted that the failure of the Moroccan Government to implement the resolutions of the OAU and the United Nations is the principal reason for the constant tense atmosphere in northwest Africa. They condemned the occupation by Moroccan forces of the territory of the SDAR. They also condemned the expansionist Moroccan policy. They renewed their support for and solidarity with the people of the Sahara in their struggle for freedom and independence under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the Polisario.

Having made it clear that a final solution to the problem of the Western Sahara must come through direct negotiations between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Polisario, the two sides condemned Morocco's constant interference in the internal affairs of Mauritania and Morocco's involvement in the recent attempted coup in that country.

Regarding the Middle East, the two sides reiterated their condemnation of the Camp David agreements and pointed to the dangers and consequences these involve for the peoples of the region. They expressed their belief that it is impossible to reach a just and lasting solution without the participation of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the people of Palestine, and unless the national rights of the Palestinians and their right to set up an independent state are recognized.

As regards African cooperation, the two presidents expressed their support for reciprocal trade agreements and for economic, technical-scientific and cultural cooperation among African states. They confirmed their intention to cooperate closely and to harmonize their efforts at international gatherings, particularly in the OAU, in order to play a part in (?renewing the ideals) of the OAU Charter.

CUBAN MINISTER SIGNS CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT

LD292016 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 29 Mar 81 EA

[Excerpt] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and of the republic, in Luanda yesterday afternoon met Levi Farah, the Cuban minister of overseas construction, with whom he discussed cooperation in the field of construction between the two countries. Also yesterday, Manuel Mangueira, the Angolan minister of construction, and Levi Farah, the Cuban minister of overseas construction, signed an intergovernmental agreement aimed at creating a joint enterprise to be called (Technigiron), which will be in charge of building schools and hospitals in the People's Republic of Angola. The Cubans have promised to construct 4,000 residential houses in the People's Republic of Angola. The two sides are expected to sign a contract endorsing this agreement in Cuba in Arpil this year. They have also agreed on a plan aimed at establishing cooperation in various fields of construction to be endorsed by the intergovernmental commission. Speaking at the signing ceremony, Manuel Mangueira, the minister of construction, said that with the signing of the agreement the doors for cooperation between the two countries in the field of construction are now open.

SOUTH AFRICA

VILJOEN, BOTHA VOICE SHOCK OVER ATTACK ON REAGAN

LD311136 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 31 Mar 81

[Text] The South African state president was among the leaders from all parts of the world who have expressed shock and dismay about the attempted assassination. President Viljoen said South Africa would pray for President Reagan's speedy recovery so that he could continue his great task in the interests of world peace and recovery [as heard]. On behalf of South Africa, President Viljoen expressed his deep sympathy with Mrs Reagan and her family and with the American people. The South Africa prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, has said the civilized world is shocked by the cruel act of terrorism against the American leader, who had scarcely begun executing his task. He said that he hoped the whole world would act to curb such deeds. Mr Botha also expressed his sympathy for President Reagan's family.